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Hafa Adai!

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5.5-magnitude earthquake hits

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

A 5.5-magnitude earthquake struck the Marianas region last night at about 6:49pm.

The earthquake, which struck in pulses of two, had a first pulse that was significantly weaker than the second pulse. Sources said that neighboring islands of Rota, Tinian, and Guam felt the temblor as well.

The earthquake occurred about

See EARTHQUAKE on Page 4

Koblerville Youth Center vandalized

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The Koblerville Youth Center, which has been vandalized several times in the past, fell victim again last week, sustaining damage amounting to at least $1,000.

The youth center, formally named the Koblerville Sports Complex Center, has been experiencing recurring incidents of vandalism in the hands of alleged Saipan Southern High School dropouts.

At about 8pm last Friday, one of five intoxicated teenagers

See KOBLERVILLE on Page 4

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services personnel put out the trash fire that hit the construction site of Imperial Pacific Resort in Garapan yesterday.

Trash fire hits IPI construction site

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A trash fire hit the construction site of the multi-million dollar Imperial Pacific Resort yesterday, halting all activities in the area for a few hours. No one was reportedly injured or had to undergo treatment due to the trash fire that might have started a little after 3pm.

Imperial Pacific International (CNM) LLC has yet to issue a statement of the incident as of press time.

In a photo posted by Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) on his Facebook account, the area where the fire started is full of debris that may be a violation of Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations.

Propst suggested in his post for the debris to be sent off-island. "As if our limited infrastructure and ecosystem can handle this development. Proper planning is needed here and we are

See TRASH on Page 4

IT&E provides NMC with high-speed internet

Maximizing its increased fiber-optic capabilities, IT&E is providing the Northern Marianas College with high-speed internet in support of the island's sole postsecondary institution.

The official launch starts this week following the newly laid fiber cables that have allowed NMC to more than quadruple their campus-wide internet speeds.

"As we continue to make our way throughout the island, upgrading our most crucial areas, we hope that the increased speeds at NMC will improve and assist students with their studies and increase efficiency," said John Compton, IT&E's chief operating officer.

The college previously experienced speeds of up to 9 mbps for over 1,000 students but now has an increased capacity to better suit their needs, said NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez.

"The upgrade will be felt throughout the college now that our connection has increased to 50 mbps. We are excited to launch the accelerated speeds and strengthen our current programs around it. We thank IT&E for helping us improve our wireless speeds and look forward to utilizing

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Tan Siu Lin Foundation recently donated over $2,500 worth of prizes, including polo shirts, to the NMC Foundation as part of its support of the NMC Foundation Annual Golf Tournament happening this Saturday, March 18.

Local

TSL Foundation donates $2.5K to NMC Foundation

The Tan Siu Lin Foundation recently donated in-kind prizes valued at over $2,500 to the Northern Marianas College Foundation. The donation was made in support of the foundation's 14th Annual Golf Tournament scheduled for Saturday, March 18, 2017, at the LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort.

"The success of the NMC Foundation's golf tournaments is largely due to the generosity and involvement of organizations like Tan Siu Lin Foundation," said NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez. "We are grateful for the company's involvement again this year."

"We are extremely thankful for Tan Siu Lin Foundation's support in this year's tournament," said Mary Tenorio, NMC Foundation president.

The NMC Foundation is composed of individuals who are dedicated and committed to raising funds for the college's programs and services. The golf tournament is the organization's main fundraising event.

The tournament will take place at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort's east course. Show time is at 6am with a shotgun start at 7am.

The first place winner for each flight will receive $500, second place winner will receive $300, and the players placing third in each category will receive $200. There are six flight categories: Championship, A, B, C, Ladies, and Seniors.

In addition to the flight prizes, there will be hole-in-one prizes, which include a 2017 Toyota Tacoma from Atkins Kroll Saipan, a 2017 Mazda6i Sport from Triple J Motors, and $5,000 in cash each from Marianas Insurance Co., McDonald's Saipan, and Pacifica Insurance Underwriters. The tournament will also feature many other items as raffle prizes like airline tickets sponsored by Delta Air Lines, smartphones, hotel stays, meal gift certificates, and much more.

Those interested in playing can download a registration form at www.marianas.edu or pick up a form at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort or at the NMC Cashier's Office where the $100 registration fee can also be paid.

The NMC Foundation is also asking companies or individuals who can contribute monetary or in-kind donations to sponsor the tournament. Those interested in taking the opportunity to sponsor the event can contact the Northern Marianas College at 237-6833 or email foundationdirector@marianas.edu. ***(NMC)***

Accessing prenatal care as early as possible during pregnancy is one of the most important things a mom-to-be can do to ensure her baby is born healthy. If you are pregnant, schedule an appointment with a doctor today.

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Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Printing funded by the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Grant under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Service Administration.

VEHICLE FIRE DEREK GERSONDE

A fire in San Vicente completely engulfs this vehicle inside the garage and there is moderate to severe heat and smoke damage to the structure. The point of origin was located inside the vehicle on the driver, passenger and dashboard area. According to the Department of Fire and EMS, the fire was intentionally set by a man who admitted responsibility. The case is considered closed by DFEMS. No persons were injured and no medical treatment was provided at the scene.

Igisomar: Faith is foundation of IPI project on Saipan

At first, Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan) had some doubts before signing the casino license agreement between the CNMI Lottery Commission and Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC. Igisomar, as then-commission chairman, represented the CNMI government.

"I had doubts, we all did. I had doubts in the casino truthfully. When we signed that agreement, it was all based on faith. The investor placed a lot of faith in it. In signing it [CLA], we also placed a lot of faith in it," Igisomar told *Saipan Tribune.*

Without that faith, the license would have stagnated. "Without faith, it would not work, this thing would have never been signed. We will be overwhelmed with doubt."

The CNMI Lottery Commission, under the agreement that was signed on Aug. 12, 2014, gave IPI the exclusive license to operate a casino in the Commonwealth.

Igisomar said a lot of uncertainties came up during the commission and IPI's discussions before the agreement was signed. Both parties, however, put faith in each other in order for the project to push through.

"The question that I was asked was, 'Chairman, there's a lot of things here that we are unsure of. There are a lot of uncertainties.' [I answered] 'You know, I agree with you, there are uncertainties,'" Igisomar said. "'We don't know what the future would bring. We'll eventually have problems with labor and with infrastructure, but everybody needs to play its role to make sure everything is in its place."

Having a Development Planning Advisory Committee was one of the provisions included in the license agreement. DPAC acts as a liaison between the CNMI government and IPI on the initial gaming facility project, and oversees and anticipates the future for the new industry on Saipan.

"You are talking about resources, workers, infrastructure impact, dumpsite, landfill, hospital capacity in accommodating the population growth, the tourism that we're going to have, the size of Garapan… these are the issues considered," said Igisomar.

As it is, the CNMI could be likened to Macau, which used to be a sleepy outpost of Portugal before barging into world-consciousness because of its glitzy casinos. The CNMI is starting to experience some of the issues that Igisomar mentioned, with IPI also affected by the numerical cap on the CW1 program, and Garapan's central business district becoming congested.

Past due obligations

Igisomar said IPI's investment in the CNMI pumped in new revenues that gave the government the chance to take care of some of its obligations. "We make sure taking care of our people is our No. 1 priority."

"It is not all about money but for the betterment of our people and for them to be healthier and wealthier. For everything that we do, we should consider that," Igisomar added.

He said the money collected from fees paid by IPI enabled the government to settle some of its obligations for land compensation, for the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and CNMI Public School System to pay their debts with the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., and for retirees continuing to receive their pensions and have some extra for bonuses.

"Their [IPI] continued existence helped us settle some obligations that the government previously can't. Their continued existence could help the government to be able to retire all of these debts and pay off what we owe people."

"As of now, from what we are sensing and feeling as a result of their existence, they are taking care of a lot of financial obligations that we could not."

Allow extension request

Igisomar supports IPI's request to extend the implementation of the scheduled deadlines. IPI chair Mark A. Brown wrote Gov. Ralph DLG Torres last month to ask for an amendment to certain provisions of the agreement regarding the deadlines.

Under the license agreement, a penalty of $100,000 would be imposed on IPI per day of delay in completing Phase I and II.

"That's why we encourage that there should be a discussion. [IPI's] extension request should be reviewed. We can't delay any response and we must act on it. Any delay would be additional burden that we could not afford," said Igisomar.

The timeline was originally set in collaboration and consultations with IPI and the CNMI through the Lottery Commission. However, several unanticipated factors slowed down IPI's projects. "The idea is for them to follow the timeline as much as possible. There are a lot of factors we must consider."

"There's Typhoon Soudelor, and CW1 and H1 [visas] issues. We cannot just say 'you're late, get out.' There should be an extension. Understanding the cause and reason would be the communication between the government and [IPI]. Collaborate and make a decision when it comes to [IPI's] request."

He is encouraging the government to take into considerations several issues before making a decision on IPI's request. "This is a huge venture, between $2 billion to $3 billion. We can't just procrastinate [on a project] of this magnitude. We created a timeline, to see the vision of retiring all debts and obligations."

He added IPI also needs to make sure it would also lessen its cost. "The government needs to make sure things happen. We should get this done to lessen any form of impact."

Brown, as stated in IPI's letter to Torres, said that Typhoon Soudelor's onslaught on Saipan last August 2015 had an impact on their construction site in Garapan. "At the starting phase of construction, [IPI] had one heavy equipment auger and two pile drive machines. The auger was extensively damaged and during the storm, rendering it inoperable."

The limited cement supply, unpredictable ground condition, dewatering issues, air rights agreement for tower cranes, inclement weather, lack of readily available skilled laborers, length of time to execute the public land lease for Garapan, and Mariana Resort & Spa's lease expiration were the other reasons cited by Brown.

IPI's project development

IPI, under the license agreement, proposed the following new construction development: 2,004 hotel guest rooms; 17,000 square meters of total gaming floor area, 13,532 square meters of food and beverage outlets (at least 23 outlets); 15,000 square meters of retail space; a wedding chapel; 600-seat theater; 9,094 square meters of meeting space including ballroom; 200 villas; 1,050 square meters of fitness area; $100-million themed entertainment facility; and 1,900 square meters of spa facility.

IPI's initial gaming facility, the Imperial Pacific Resort in Garapan that is set to open its casino later this month, will have a minimum of 250 rooms. The total cost of all proposed projects is $3.14 billion. ***(Jon Perez)***

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Saipan Brewing Co. to sponsor bar hop

Saipan Brewing Co., in coordination with local businesses in Garapan, will be hosting Saipan's first St. Patrick's Day Shamrock Walk on Friday, March 17, from 6pm until late. That will require participants to hop from one bar or restaurant to the next, have their card stamped at each participating bar when you purchase a Saipan Brewing draft beer, and later get a prize.

Participating venues include Everest Kitchen, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Sunshine Cafe, Jonny's Bar & Grill, Godfather's Bar, Salty's Saipan, and Bubba Gump Shrimp Co.

Each participating venue will be pouring special release draft beer from Saipan Brewing Co. The two Irish-themed beers available will be Saipan'igan's Irish Red Ale and Lucky Charms Green Ale.

Old-school Irish music will be performed by musician Paktukia throughout the event at the different participating venues. Sam Sosa will provide bagpipe performances. Drink and food specials will be available at the participating venues as well. Tribe Marianas has designed a limited edition "Drink Local" T-shirt in green and black for the event. The shirt is available for purchases while supplies last at Tribe Marianas Middle Road location.

The public is invited to participate for free in the Shamrock Walk and support Garapan businesses. For those wishing to complete the entire walk, you can obtain a stamp card by starting your walk at Everest Kitchen. If you obtain all seven stamps, you can claim your prize at the after-party at Godfather's Bar.

In addition to supporting local businesses and enjoying the Irish spirit of St. Patrick's Day, a portion of proceeds from this event will support the U.S. Marshals Survivors Benefit Fund, a non-profit organization created to help the families of U.S. Marshals Service members killed in the line of duty.

Saipan Brewing Co. reminds everyone to consume our craft beer responsibly and to always have a designated driver. Questions regarding the Shamrock Walk can be answered by Saipan Brewing Co. at 286-2337 or sales@saipanbrewing.com. ***(PR)***

CUC: Outage nothing to be alarmed about

The power blackout that occurred Sunday evening affecting several areas of the island was nothing to be alarmed about, according to Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Gary Camacho.

At about 6:37pm last Sunday, San Jose, Oleai, Susupe, and parts of Chalan Kano experienced a power outage that lasted about an hour and a half.

In a statement, Camacho said the power interruption was due to multiple equipment failure.

"There was a power interruption in the Kiya 4 circuit, which is in the substation near Chalan Kiya, affecting portions of Chalan Kanoa on Beach Road," said Camacho.

A failed airbrake switch in front of the Ada Gymnasium and a capacitor failure in front of the Townhouse Shopping Center in Susupe tripped the outage.

"It turns out switches failed due to age. [CUC] have bypassed it currently and are replacing them with new units," said Camacho.

He said there is nothing to be alarmed about and that this would soon be resolved.

"There would not be any problems moving forward," said Camacho.

According to Camacho, the power got back to the areas at around 8pm last Sunday. About an hour and a half was used to "verify and assess [the situation] before [CUC] could start to work on the isolation of the faulty components." ***(Erwin Encinares)***

EARTHQUAKE

From Page 1

67 miles south-southwest of Saipan, with a depth of 62.8 miles, according to Joey Dela Cruz, emergency operations center manager of the CNMI Office of Homeland Security Emergency Management.

The epicenter's exact coordinates were at 14.3 degrees north and 145.3 degrees east at about 8 miles north of Rota.

Witnesses reported that the earthquake's second temblor was so strong it felt like they were "forcibly jerked sideways."

Saipan Tribune attempted to contact Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas to obtain comments, but he could not be reached as of press time.

As of 8:11pm last night, Dela Cruz said the CNMI Department of Homeland Security received information from the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center in Hawaii confirming that there is no tsunami warning for the Marianas.

Dela Cruz reminds citizens of what to do during an earthquake.

"As in the past and as we always let people know, if you feel the shake, you need to drop, cover, and hold on. If you are in the low-lying area, seek higher ground [in case of a possible tsunami]," said Dela Cruz.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres reminded CNMI citizens to "continue being proactive in keeping your families and your communities safe."

The last major earthquake in the CNMI was back on Aug. 1, 2016. A 7.7-magnitude earthquake struck the CNMI at about 7am but there were no reports of injuries and damage to property.

For additional information, contact the Emergency Operations Center warning point at 237-8000 or visit its Facebook page at CNMI EOC state warning point.

IT&E

From Page 1

the fiber connection for our ongoing developments," Fernandez said.

Compton added that IT&E is excited that the college is better equipped with high-speed internet.

"For a long time we've been working to better equip our students and now the college will see faster upload and download speeds and cleaner connections. The speeds have more than quadrupled compared to the previous infrastructure. As we move forward, we want to continue to build on what we've done and make these speeds accessible to all residents. With the ongoing improvements to IT&E's new fiber network, increased speeds and coverage will soon be available," Compton said.

If you'd like to learn more about IT&E CNMI products, services, or outreach, stop by IT&E's Chalan Laulau Store on Middle Road or IT&E's Garapan store inside the TSL building. You can also log on to Facebook at IT&E CNMI or blog.ite.net. ***(PR)***

IT&E's Sales & Marketing manager Hans Mickelson, chief operating officer John Compton, Business Account manager Paul Guerrero, Network Operations director Velma Palacios, and general manager Rose Soledad join Northern Marianas College president Dr. Carmen Fernandez and director for Information Technology Jonathan Liwag during a ceremonial launch of NMC's high speed internet.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

KOBLERVILLE

From Page 1

allegedly vandalized KYC, according to office clerk and program coordinator Gloria Kaipat.

The damage include eight broken lights, a broken glass panel that measures about 5 feet, a shattered Commonwealth Utilities Corp. water tank lid made of concrete and a broken CUC water pipe that acted as the centers' backup water supply.

According to Kaipat, things were worse last Christmas when the vandals stole the centers' Christmas décor and slaughtered a kitten to hang its carcass in front of the entrance with a note saying, "Thank you."

One of the five suspects in the latest case has been detained by authorities, Kaipat said. She identified him as Deffrey Kios.

Kaipat said Kios was intoxicated when his four friends—also intoxicated—tried to stop him from vandalizing the center. Kaipat said one of five suspects told her that Kios was too drunk to be stopped.

"I hope [private companies] could help us with our security," said Kaipat.

The only form of security for the center are alarms that are triggered if the doors of the center are opened at night. The alarms only cover the inside of the center.

According to Kaipat, the center receives at most 50 children after school during the week. She said the center has about 600 registered users.

KYC is used by many groups such as the Saipan Awaodori team, which represents the CNMI in traditional Japanese Awaodori dance festivals.

"Since 10 years ago, the Awaodori team has been practicing in the KYC and most of our members are from Kobler," said PDM Promoters coordinator Sonia Siwa.

Siwa said the center is ideal for practicing because it has an open space in which performers of the Saipan Awaodori Team could practice without disturbing nearby homes.

"I don't know why they did this. This [center] is for them. I just don't understand," said Kaipat.

TRASH

From Page 1

not seeing it. All we are hearing are excuses."

Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services public information officer Derek Gersonde said they received a call at 3:16pm reporting the trash fire. Garapan Fire Station's Engine-2 and Medic-2 immediately responded to the scene.

Engine-2 firefighters then asked for backup at 3:20pm and requested the Aircraft Rescue Firefighters for assistance.

Rescue-1 from the Susupe Fire Station responded at 3:22pm and arrived on the scene after six minutes. Another ARFF tanker arrived at 3:58pm for additional help.

DFEMS then notified the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. at 4:40pm to turn on the nearest fire hydrants for the use of the fire engines that responded to the scene. CUC redirected the water to the Garapan Fire Station where ARFF water tankers were refilled.

The fire was placed under control at 6:22pm and DFEMS personnel issued an all-clear at 7pm.

Gersonde said that, based on their initial investigation and interviews of the witnesses, the fire started at the western side of the building. The debris from the construction materials piled up near the structure fueled the fire that is still of undetermined cause, pending more investigation.

CABLE DAMAGE

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

IT&E sustained cable damage in Lower Base last week. In a statement, the company said the U.S. Army Reserve caused the unexpected damage. Restoration for Lower Base took several hours. The cable cut affecting Garapan earlier has been fully restored. Affected customers are being asked to inform CallCenterLeads@itehq.net.

Torres wants agencies to address tourism issues

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres hopes that concerned agencies would come together and address growing concerns on tourists that are coming to the CNMI.

Those issues include the long wait hours of visitors after arriving at the airport, tourists that come to work as construction workers, and birth tourism.

Torres met separately with Customs and Border Protection, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Marianas Visitors Authority, and representatives of airline carriers that offer flights to Saipan.

He discussed concerns about overstaying tourists, the issue of birth tourism, and the China visa waiver parole program.

"There are construction workers coming in as tourists and about birth tourism," Torres told *Saipan Tribune*. "We need to address that. This is a serious matter and must no longer be tolerated. The airlines and concerned agencies need to find a solution to stop these kinds of actions. Otherwise, we would start pulling out airlines that are not in compliance."

With China representing 40 percent of visitor arrivals in the Commonwealth, the visa waiver program is a critical part of the CNMI tourism economy, Torres said.

"Ensuring that all relevant [agencies]—the CNMI government, CPA, and tour and airline operators—understand and relentlessly pursue all options to prevent illegal immigration and be responsible partners in this program," said Torres. "It is important for me to make it clear that this administration is ready to make the painful or difficult changes to the status quo to be able to maintain our access to larger markets so the families and residents who are relying on the continued growth of our economy can continue to succeed."

Unconfirmed reports have reached *Saipan Tribune* that pregnant women are still allowed to enter the CNMI by either wearing lose clothing or if they actually tell the truth about coming to Saipan just to give birth.

"I have not yet heard about it, but that is something that we need to clear with [CBP]. And if that's the case, is it okay to come here and just give birth?" said Torres, who again met with CPA, MVA, and airline officials last Wednesday.

The meetings are just the latest in a series of consultations in the hopes of solving problems that plague the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

The long wait lines—at one time reaching five hours—just to be cleared at CBP is one of the issues of concern aside from passengers of international flights following federal immigration laws.

"The discussions we had with our airline partners, and our local airport and tourism officials were crucial to addressing the problems facing our airport. I'm pleased to report that there is a collective commitment to work collaboratively to address the serious concerns we all should share for the long term interests of our economy."

He added, in a separate statement, the meetings are pivotal in order to provide "necessary dialogue about the CNMI government's measures and the airlines can undertake to achieve sustainable solutions to the processing times and to support the adequate screening of tourists."

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‘Name new park after late governor’

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

There is a push at the Legislature to name the soon-to-open Puerto Rico Park after the late governor, Eloy S. Inos.

Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) plans to introduce legislation to name the park the Hon. Eloy S. Inos Peace Park to honor the CNMI’s eighth governor.

The Inos family supports Demapan’s proposal.

The park will have its ribbon cutting ceremony next week, with acting Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas of the Office of Insular Affairs Nikolao Pula attending.

Demapan said the legislation is a fitting tribute to the late governor’s contributions to the Commonwealth and honors his years of service both in the private and public sectors. He is now preparing to draft the bill.

“The late [governor] Inos dedicated over 30 years of his life to public service for the people of the Commonwealth. And he embodied all the characteristics of a true statesman, such as intelligence, humility, and kindness,” said Demapan, who served as Inos’ press secretary.

“He possessed a vision that made it possible for him to overcome obstacles and to cross political lines to unite leaders in order to take the government out of its economic decline.”

Inos was a former CNMI Department of Finance secretary, lieutenant governor, and governor during the Commonwealth’s economic slump.

Despite all the problems, he managed to make sure the retirees’ pensions and their beneficiaries would still get their checks on time and laid the foundation for the CNMI’s economic recovery and rebirth.

Inos was also an environmental warrior, championing the cause of protecting and conserving the natural resources of the CNMI.

Demapan said that Inos was instrumental in finally closing down the Puerto Rico dump and secured over $20 million so the area could be converted into a public park for the community to use.

“Then-governor Inos, as a steward of our environment, saw the important need to reduce migration of contaminated water into our lagoon, protect the toe and slopes of the dump from erosion, control stormwater, and collect and safely treat or ventilate landfill gases,” he said.

“He envisioned the conversion of the former dump into a peaceful park that emphasizes the open-space aspect of the area and allows for the preservation of its natural habitat, which usually involves a low level of development that accentuates the area’s natural beauty,” added Demapan.

He said naming the park in Inos’ honor is the best way to always remind people of his leadership and life of service. The park highlights the pristine waters and natural beauty of Saipan’s western lagoon that would become another attraction.

“What’s wonderful about this facility is that it will be a place for everyone to enjoy and it is a place that takes in the natural beauty of our island. Having said this, I truly believe that governor Inos would not have had it any other way.”

Khorram combats cataract in Africa

Marianas Eye Institute’s co-founder Dr. David Khorram, accompanied by his 16-year-old son Arman, recently went to Ghana, Africa, to provide needed cataract surgery.

The two were Global Impact fellows with the nonprofit organization, *Unite for Sight*, based in New Haven, Connecticut.

“The training was a refresher of sorts for me,” said Khorram. “However, it was all new for Arman and it prepared him well for the time we spent in the villages in Ghana.”

Global Impact fellows undergo training on providing care in rural and underserved areas.

In Ghana, the Khorrams were joined by three other volunteers, all university students.

The team members, accompanied by staff from the Crystal Eye Clinic in Accra, Ghana, traveled each day to outlying villages and conducted large scale community screening campaigns to identify those with vision problems.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

David Khorram, left, and Arman Khorram, second from right, worked with volunteers from Vanderbilt, Duke, and University of New England to combat blindness in rural Africa in collaboration with Marianas Eye Institute.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

David Khorram with the operating room doctors and staff in Ghana, Africa.

In addition, the team members, including those from the Saipan eye clinic, gathered statistics to be used in research to improve care in the region.

They saw up to 200 patients per day.

“The screenings were done in partnership with local village organizations who announced days ahead of time that we were arriving,” Khorram said. “Because of the absence of hospitals and health centers, we used local schools or community centers to perform the exams. The university volunteers and Arman checked vision, while those of us with medical training, conducted the formal eye exams.”

On some days, while the team members were in the outlying villages, Khorram joined ophthalmologists from the Crystal Eye Clinic to help clear the backlog of cataract surgery.

“There are a limited number of ophthalmologists in the country,” said Khorram. “Not enough to serve the population. So volunteer ophthalmologists are needed to perform cataract surgery.”

Cataract is the world’s leading cause of reversible blindness, affecting some 20 million people globally. Cataracts are also the leading cause of vision loss in Saipan.

Cataract is a clouding of the natural lens inside the eye, which causes blurred vision. It occurs most commonly with aging, and with diabetes.

“Because Marianas Eye Institute is the major center for treatment of diabetic eye disease on Saipan, we also treat a lot of cataracts. Cataract surgery, with today’s modern technique of phacoemulsification, can be performed in under 20 minutes, and the same day, the patient can see again,” said Russ Quinn, the Saipan eye clinic’s CEO.

Dr. Dennis Williams performs the high-tech cataract surgery on Saipan, while Khorram now spends most of his professional time as an international volunteer eye surgeon. ***(PR)***

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RAMON M. BERMUDES JR. PETITIONER
VS.
NANCY D. BERMUDES RESPONDENT
FCD – DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 17-0094 SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 502627, CK, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

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Whispering Palms students make Managaha trek

The students of Whispering Palms School spent two school days on Managaha Island as part of an annual tradition where they learn during the day and camp at night.

From the youngest students, aged 4, to the oldest students, aged 15, are mixed into multi-level groups to encourage cooperation between grade levels and ages.

The typical classes of English, math, science, and social studies were replaced by instruction in sand art, beading, and pictures from natural items.

Students also conducted a digital scavenger hunt, were introduced to ukulele performance, and participated in cooperative games.

The students listened as Janelle, a biologist from the Division of Fish & Wildlife, discussed sea turtles and sea life.

The annual Managaha trip is a Whispering Palms tradition that goes back decades. A continuing tradition also has parents volunteering their time to help out with hauling materials, donating food, cooking meals, and doing the legwork to make the trip work efficiently.

Thursday night was dedicated to sitting on the beach and singing songs together. Some students volunteered to play songs that they learned in ukulele class. Afterward, the students enjoyed a game of flashlight tag.

Students brought their own tents and set them up, staying either with friends or family. Students camped overnight with the WPS staff and parents, and had the option of camping on Friday night at their discretion. For more Managaha pictures, view the school's website under the SCHOOL LIFE and then the NEWS AND EVENTS tab at http://www.saipanprivateschool.com/

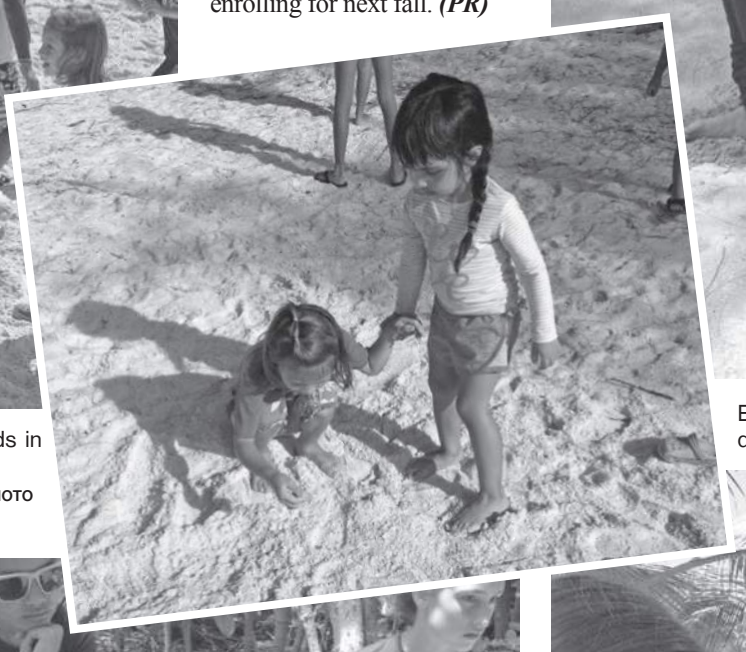
Whispering Palms School is a private school for 4 year olds through the 8th grade, located on Navy Hill, and is currently enrolling for next fall. ***(PR)***

Group pose. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

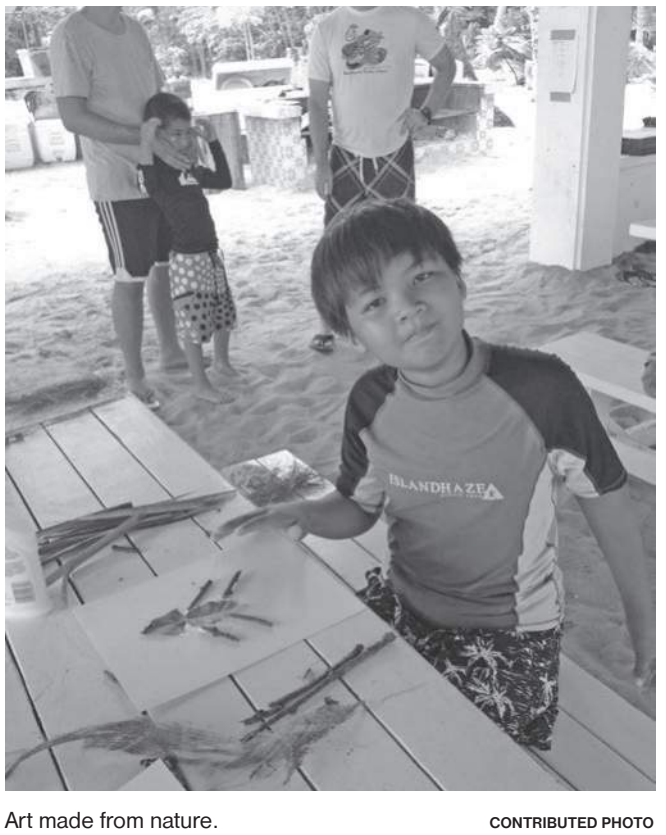
Learning to play the ukulele. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Students play a cooperative tag game. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Examining and capturing a small item for the digital scavenger hunt. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Making friends in the sand. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Art made from nature. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ukulele class. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Recording evidence for the digital scavenger hunt.

IPI HONOR'S WOMEN IN HISTORY:

Educator Paulette Tomokane-Sablan

School principal Paulette Tomokane-Sablan, center front row, and her San Vicente Elementary School family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI celebrates March as Women's Month and this year Imperial Pacific International-Corporate Social Responsibility has committed to honoring women in history that have made an impact in the community today.

IPI-CSR will be hosting the first ever R.I.S.E. Women in History event honoring women who have contributed to the community in the areas of education, healthcare, business, arts and culture and public service.

R.I.S.E. stands for "Respected, Inspired, Strengthened and Empowered."

The first honoree for the R.I.S.E. Women in Education is Paulette Tomokane-Sablan, the principal of San Vicente Elementary School.

"I started my journey in the education field during the last year of my undergraduate program," said Tomokane-Sablan. "As part of the completion of my program, I had to complete and pass a 100-hour practicum. My focus was on mental health and my professor felt that placing me at an autism center would provide me with the best hands-on learning. I spent more than 100 hours at the center working with students diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders. It was a challenge but it was the most rewarding experience. I learned a lot from the students and parents I worked with as well as my colleagues."

Tomokane-Sablan graduated from Hawaii Pacific University with a bachelor of arts in Psychology.

"I wanted to return home to give back to our island and raise my daughter around family. While preparing to return home, I was communicating with the [Public School System] Special Education Department regarding a teaching position—and was then hired and assigned at Garapan Elementary School."

Joining the school district opened a new path for Tomokane-Sablan. It allowed her to gain experience in the field of counseling, and served for about four year while working with the third and fifth grade level.

"It was during this time when I felt that this was my calling, so I pursued my master's degree in education," said Tomokane-Sablan. "Our vice principal was leaving our school for another position at PSS and I filled his position for two years."

As the school district continue to grow, she was appointed as interim principal and ultimately assumed the principal position in full time capacity. She has been in that capacity for the last five year.

When asked what it means to be effective in her profession, Sablan said, "One must be committed and passionate of their role. The commitment and passion drives one to set high standards to ensure that students succeed. You have to have a purpose for why you do what you do."

Sablan hopes that all women continue to be the best they can be.

"There are many women out there who have made many achievements in their life and continue to pursue bigger dreams, which is a wonderful journey and I salute them. My message to all women is to never stop. Continue to be the best you can be in everything you do and embrace the journey that it takes you on. In every journey there are ups and downs, but we must take them in and learn from them. Always stay humble, be true to yourself in all that you do. Let your purpose be the driver in all that you do. "

She is honored for the recognition and she is sharing it with the rest of her female colleagues.

"It truly is an honor to be recognized for making an impact in the lives of our future—our children. I do what I do with 200-plus percent because I love what my job entails and it's not for recognition. Who wouldn't want to go to work to be greeted with so much excitement and love from our students throughout the school day? I am sharing this honor with all my female educational colleagues. The job we do is not easy but it is the most fulfilling profession that one can hope for."

Tomokane-Sablan, along with several other women-achievers, will be honored by IPI-CSR on Friday at 10:30am ceremony to be held at the Pacific Islands Club's Charley's. (***IPI-CSR***)

Roman Rudnytsky to perform on Saipan

The Friends of the Arts is once again hosting world-renowned classical pianist Roman Rudnytsky for a two-day concert, "An Evening of Magical Music," on March 18 and March 24.

The first show on March 18, will start at 7pm and will be held at the Charley's Cabaret, Pacific Islands Club and includes dinner at The Magellan. Tickets will be available for purchase at the doors for $40, $35 for members of the Friends of the Arts, $30 for students, and $15 for children. Advance sales are also optional and will have reserved seating. To purchase in advance, contact Frank Gibson at 287-7476 or email him at fgibson@yahoo.com.

The second show on March 24 will also start at 7pm and will be held at the American Memorial Park Theater. Admission will be free.

Rudnytsky is an internationally active concert pianist whose frequent performances take him all over the world. He has performed in 95 different countries as of 2010. He is a graduate of the famous Julliard School in New York and also did additional studies at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, Maryland and at master classes in Austria and Italy.

Rudnytsky is a prizewinner in piano competitions and has many recordings.

In addition to his many recitals, Rudnytsky has also appeared as a soloist with many orchestras around the world. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

Flashpoint—Korea

The combined actions of North Korea, South Korea, the United States, China and Japan have probably made the Korean peninsula the most dangerous potential flashpoint in the whole world at the moment.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea—North Korea—has fired off four more ballistic missiles, simultaneously, alarming neighboring South Korea, China and Japan, along with the United States, which has 28,500 troops based in South Korea. Pyongyang's obvious continuing pursuit of its effort to possess nuclear-armed intercontinental missiles is alarming not only to countries in its region, but also to the world, which continues to condemn it—ineffectually—in international circles.

It doesn't help that the DPRK also apparently just assassinated leader Kim Jong Un's half-brother, Kim Jong Nam, in Kuala Lumpur's international airport, with nerve gas—evidence that the country's leadership is at best homicidal, paranoiac and somewhat stupid, since Kim Jong Nam was more or less under the protection of China, virtually North Korea's only serious patron in the world.

South Korea, in collaboration with the United States, hasn't helped the situation much either in terms of a serious quest for tranquility in the region. Once again, with South Korea, America is carrying out its annual broad spring military exercise, called "Foal Eagle," in the area. It is scheduled to last eight weeks, to the end of April. Skipping the exercise would give the impression that we were bowing to DPRK sensibilities and complaints, but it is nonetheless the case that North Korea's missile tests and the U.S.-South Korean exercise are strongly linked.

South Korea has also ousted its president, Park Geun-hye, on charges of corruption and has just placed under arrest Lee Jae-yong, the head of Samsung, a company that is estimated to account for 20 percent of South Korea's gross domestic product.

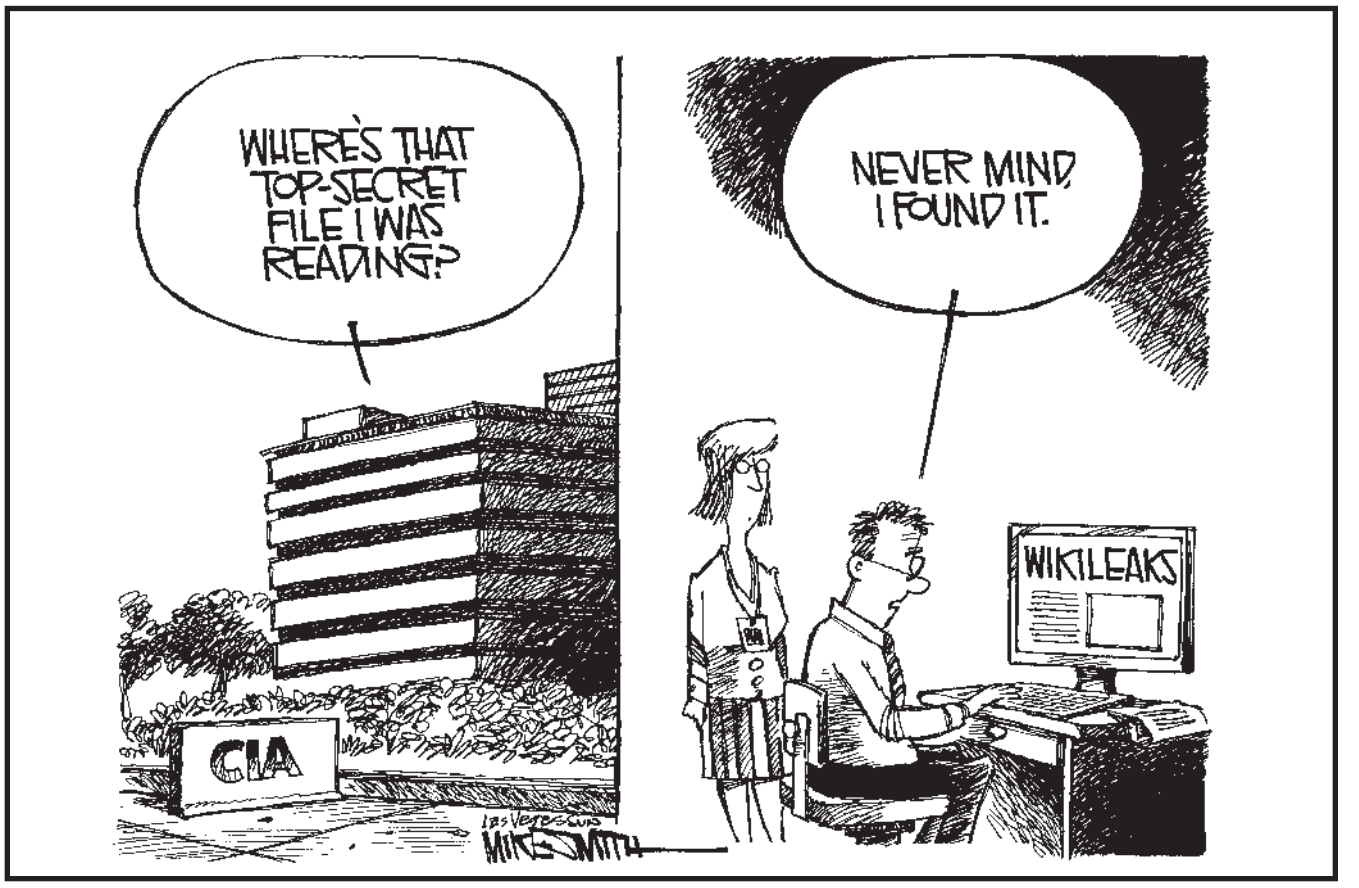
China has made its usual ritual condemnation of North Korea's weapons-waving, but it is also cross at the United States for being in the process of deploying in South Korea an anti-missile defense system known as THAAD (Terminal High Altitude Area Defense). It is, in principle, being put into place, by the end of April, as a measure against North Korea's growing potential. China, however, has also taken offense at its being installed, claiming to see it as deployed against Chinese weapons systems, an unwelcome intrusion in the region and an aggressive U.S. measure directed against it.

Russia, which also has a small border with the DPRK, has so far stayed out of the melee. Japan was very agitated at North Korea's firing of its ballistic missiles into the Sea of Japan earlier this week.

All in all, what is happening in the Korean peninsula, or what could happen there, is shaping up as President Donald Trump's first foreign affairs drama. It would be nice to hope that matters will calm down once the U.S.-South Korean exercise is over, the South Korean president is replaced, and China is persuaded that the THAAD system is not directed against it. In the meantime, the rest of the world should hope that everyone remains cool and calm in Pyongyang, Seoul, Beijing, Tokyo and Washington—a lot to wish for, given the volatility of the region.

No one must step on these various Easter eggs. War in East

See FLASHPOINT on Page 11



America's 'civilization-warping crisis of public trust'

By DICK MEYER
Scripps Washington Bureau

Dick Meyer is Chief Washington Correspondent for the Scripps Washington Bureau and DecodeDC (www.newsnet5.com/decodedc). Readers may send him email at dickmeyer.dc@scripps.com.

Ben Sasse is a conservative Republican senator from Nebraska. He recently issued an official statement that caught some national attention, declaring, "We are in the midst of a civilization-warping crisis of public trust." He's right and his thesis deserves even more attention.

Sasse's declaration was prompted by President Donald Trump's unfounded and unscrupulous tweets accusing former president Barack Obama of spying on him. But Trump's unprecedented presidential civic vandalism, Sasse was right to suggest, needs to be seen in the context of this "civilization-warping crisis of public trust." Like a sociological savant, Trump preys on this mistrust, benefits from it and—most dangerously—makes it worse.

Never before has an American president overtly, with an exhibitionist's zeal, tried to undermine, discredit and insult the major institutions of the government he leads and their leaders. Richard Nixon tried similar stunts, but they were covert and sneaky. Trump as role-model-in-chief, as the bully in the pulpit, as the leader of the free world messages daily to Americans and the world that institutions like the intelligence agencies, the FBI, the military are not credible, not worthy of trust and, often, led by rats and losers.

Stepping back, Trump did not invent or cause the crisis of trust that has been long in the making. Since the Vietnam-Watergate period, trust and confidence in almost every institution and vocation in America have plummeted from organized religion to public schools, banks to the Supreme Court. Congress, the presidency, politicians and the news media are holding steady at all time lows, competing with cellar-dwellers such as used-car salesmen and debt collectors.

If it is any meager comfort, most advanced, prosperous democracies are in the same tippy boat. In a recent article on the decline of trust, author Bill Bishop offers a general explanation stemming from the notion that "as societies grow wealthier and less concerned about basic survival, we should expect a shift from communal to individual values."

"Everything about modern life works against community and trust," Bishop writes. "Globalization and urbanization put people in touch with the different and the novel. Our economy rewards initiative over conformity."

Ever since Watergate, beginning with Jimmy Carter's famous speech about America's "crisis of confidence," presidents have tried to rebuild trust, confidence and optimism about America's system and institutions.

Not Donald Trump. His strategy is the opposite: destroy.

As a candidate, president-elect and now president, Trump has relentlessly belittled and discredited whole branches of government (Congress, the Judiciary) and whole agencies, particularly those with the most independence—the FBI, the intelligence community and military. All presidential candidates and presidents criticize specific programs, failures and even leaders. No one except Trump has dismissed entire institutions, overtly berated them with locker room insults and made up charges.

He calls federal judges "so-called judges." The press is "the enemy of the American people."

Consider the military. Candidate Trump said America's generals were "rubble." "They have been reduced to a point where it's embarrassing to our country." All the generals and the admirals too—"rubble."

"I know more about ISIS than the generals do," he boasted in November. "Believe me."

As president, when Chief Petty Officer Ryan Owens died on a failed mission to Yemen, Trump made sure everyone knew he wasn't responsible. "They came to see me and they explained what they wanted to do, the generals," he said.

Trump's campaign to discredit the intelligence community is well documented. When the intelligence agencies released a declassified, sanitized report on Russian meddling in U.S. elections, Trump tweeted, "These are the same people that said Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction" (which is not accurate). Trump cited Russian sources and Julian Assange as sources more credible than the CIA.

Now Trump's feud with the FBI and director James Comey is center stage. As president Trump berates the FBI via Twitter, "The FBI is totally unable to stop the national security 'leakers' that have permeated our government for a long time. They can't even ... find the leakers within the FBI itself."

And after Comey rejected Trump's incendiary charge that Obama ran wiretaps into Trump Tower, Trump sent his flacks out to avow that he didn't believe Comey.

There is a theory growing more popular that Trump is systematically trying to delegitimize and gild credible sources of dissent and opposition, as aspiring totalitarians like to do. His new Rasputin, Minister of Propaganda Stephen Bannon, talks about deconstructing the "administrative state" and the "deep state"—made up scary names for what is actually America's constitutional government. I don't buy this, yet, because I see no evidence Trump's thinking is that fancy.

What I wonder is if Trump actually trusts or respects any government institution or type of public servant. He seems to trust Jared and Ivanka and that's it.

If Trump's mistrust and his smear campaign grow and grow more effective, American democracy could be warped permanently.

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GOP health-care plan really about destructive ideology

By ERIKA D. SMITH
The Sacramento Bee

Erika D. Smith is a columnist for the Sacramento Bee. *Readers may email her at esmith@sacbee.com.*

This week, just as the blowback over the House Republican plan to replace Obamacare was turning into a hurricane, a smug Rep. Jason Chaffetz went on CNN to try to sell the legislation's merits.

Asked whether Americans would lose health coverage if Trumpcare passes, the Utah Republican pulled off an ideological deflection worthy of Ronald Reagan and his mythical "welfare queen."

"Americans have choices," Chaffetz said, starting down a path that Twitter has since likely made him regret. "And they've got to make a choice. So, maybe, rather than getting that new iPhone that they just love and they want to go spend hundreds of dollars on, maybe they should invest that in health care."

The exchange was revealing, to say the least. Too many in Republican Party seem hell-bent on governing by fiction rather than by fact.

It's now abundantly clear that no matter what House Republicans, including Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, say about keeping their campaign promises and helping Americans get affordable health care, their replacement plan is really just about ideology. Destructive ideology, at that.

The insistence on passing legislation that would force millions of people to lose their coverage and cause what California Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones called a "death spiral" in the health insurance market is about more than just thinking the United States can't afford to subsidize services for poor people.

It's about a stubborn, frankly absurd belief that the nation shouldn't even try—not without strings attached anyway—because poor people are lazy and should make better choices to help themselves.

This is the type of twisted thinking that led Vice President Mike Pence to order up an experimental health insurance program when he was governor of Indiana, rather than just expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act. I was working in Indiana at the time, a state where thousands of people had long ago given up on getting health care. The lengthy fight with the federal government to get a Medicaid waiver seemed more like a heartless political point for Pence to score against Democrats than a sincere nod toward fiscal responsibility.

Three years later, it's a program that's being talked about as a national model for how other states can provide health care the "compassionate conservative" way.

Yes, Trumpcare could pave the way for Pencecare, even though the facts and some research dictate neither work as well as Obamacare. Gross, right? But how else can Republicans go about teaching all those lazy poor people the conservative value of personal responsibility?

Pencecare, officially known as the Healthy Indiana Plan 2.0, or HIP 2.0, requires recipients to pay an average of 2 percent of their monthly income to get coverage, no matter how poor they are. Even those with no income have to pay a minimum $1 a month.

If people miss a payment, they get bumped to a second-tier plan that requires co-payments to see the doctor and eliminates access to already modest dental and vision coverage.

The vice president would argue the program is a huge success. Indeed, there are some positives. More than 400,000 people have signed up for coverage, sending Indiana's uninsured rate south of 10 percent for perhaps the first time ever.

"There is something to be said for the dignity of empowering low-income Hoosiers to make their own decisions about their own health care," Pence said last year. "People stand a little bit taller."

Maybe. Or maybe their pockets are just a little bit lighter.

As it turns out, upon closer inspection, Pencecare isn't so much compassionate as it is conservative. Nonprofit agencies have admitted to paying the monthly fees for poor people so they don't lose coverage. In other cases, people have signed up for coverage, but haven't made the first payment so they are considered "conditionally enrolled," which looks good on paper, but doesn't quite accomplish the goal.

"It may look sensible on paper to penalize people who let insurance lapse or miss a premium payment, but in the real world it is cruel and counterproductive," said Fran Quigley, an old acquaintance who is director of the Health and Human Rights Clinic at Indiana University McKinney School of Law. "People miss or are late on insurance payments for a lot of good reasons: They need the money to pay rent or else face homelessness or to feed their families, they don't understand the often very confusing rules and deadlines involved, or the paperwork never gets to the right place.

"Punishing them by raising their rates or barring them from coverage causes real suffering,' he continued. "And it often ends up costing more for taxpayers, since these folks will often require expensive emergency services because they can't access preventive or chronic care."

None of this is surprising, given what studies have warned for years about the pitfalls of forcing people who have no money to pay to go the doctor.

But Pence is a man willing to double down on conservative ideology even when it makes little sense. And so is Seema Verma, who designed Pencecare and is now President Donald Trump's pick to lead the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, which has oversight of Medicare, Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act.

So watch out if House Republicans manage to shove their replacement bill through Congress, defying criticism, and onto the president's desk.

Under the plan, gone would be the crucial subsidies that help poor people pay their deductibles, replaced by refundable tax credits meant to entice people to buy insurance on the open market. And starting in 2020, Medicaid payments to states that fund those tax credits would be reduced to undo the expansion of the entitlement program under Obamacare.

Squeezed financially, states would be forced to pick and choose how to fund health care, deciding which sick people to help and which ones to let fend for themselves. Some states might see little choice but to adopt a cost-sharing model similar to Pencecare. Ohio and Kentucky are already considering it.

In the end, though, no one will benefit from replacing the truth about health care with ideology. Sorry, Mike Pence, but making America great is not making America Indiana.

Stick up for free speech, America

By JAY AMBROSE
Tribune News Service

Jay Ambrose is an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service. Readers may email him at speaktojay@aol.com.

Charles Murray, someone who makes his living by thinking and appreciates its grandeur as a guiding force, recently had a firsthand encounter with a mob of college students insisting instead that fury should rule the day.

I am tempted to generalize about a sickeningly spoiled, intellectually betrayed younger generation out to announce its moral superiority by way of moral thuggery. That goes too far. We're talking about 100 people. But they symbolized more than themselves. Something significant is indeed going on. And it is pathetic.

The setting for this story is Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vt. Murray, a libertarian author and scholar at the American Enterprise Institute think tank, had been invited to speak at the school by libertarian students, and no wonder.

A few years back, he had written an amazing book that as much as predicted what we witnessed in the 2016 presidential election. It was called "Coming Apart" and was about an upper-middle class more and more separated from a white working class letting go of self-reliance, industriousness, marriage and religion. A nation once unified in its norms was no more and the result was gated communities over here and increased poverty, crime and family dissolution over there.

You could read the book and not be persuaded by every sentence while nevertheless feeling that, yes, it is crucial to restore the exceptionalism of earlier days. Worry about all of this grew in 2016 when we witnessed so much talk about the "establishment"—masses growling at the elites who in turn looked down on the deplorables. Donald Trump then made vulgarity his calling card as he rose mightily against political correctness.

It was legitimate to do so. Political correctness can be incorrect to the point of pulling a professor's hair, hurting her neck, making her fear for her life and sending her to a hospital. This was what happened to a woman who was on the scene to debate Murray after his talk. To its credit, the administration did its best to maintain peace and sanity, and the professor was there to assure another side got told. But the protestors were not about to permit something as civilized as an exchange of views.

So the students unleashed obscenities in chants and signs, pushed, threatened, banged on a car, roughed up the professor and left one thinking of what else we have seen lately: the violence, speech oppression and vandalism at Berkeley, still other frenetic, mindless protests, silly university speech codes, safe zones, microaggressions, trigger warnings and no-sombrero rules.

Look around and it's clear mean-spirited, self-absorbed, holier-than-God attitudes are definitively with us. They did not arise out of nothing but out of modes of askew child rearing, cultural degeneration and too many postmodernist, leftist professors preaching what should never be practiced. To what extent could our future be shaped by those caught up in such a self-satisfied la-la land of absurdist rationalizations and desires for collectivist control?

It is hard to say, but I am not just indulging ad hominem displeasure here. The main thing is the assault on free speech. Without it, there is no democracy. Truth becomes harder and harder to find. We do not grow. We do not learn. Without free speech, life shrinks, goodness shrinks, meaningfulness shrinks.

A few incidents do not give us the end of the American creed but they do point to ways in which it is being subverted. An incident in which a powerful, creative thinker is shut up is all the more frightening because it tells us how much we would be hurt if the villains of this tale were to grow as much as they would like in their power and influence.

What's needed is much ado about something very scary.

FLASHPOINT

From Page 10

Asia could have unanticipated, highly undesirable consequences. Mr. Trump could throw cold water on the threatening dogfight by calling strongly as a new leader for a resumption of the six-party, DPRK-South Korea-Japan-China-Russia-U.S. talks, suspended in 2009. He could cut the length of "Foal Eagle" to put something on the table. A peace initiative as his first major foreign policy move could look very good.

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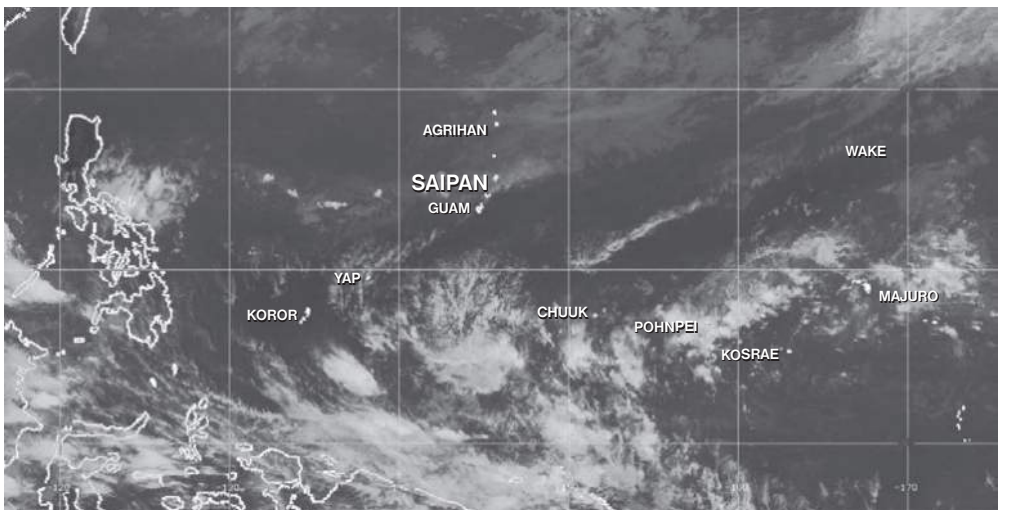
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy. Isolated showers. Northwest winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy. Isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87º ▼76º	▲88º ▼77º	▲88º ▼77º	▲88º ▼78º	▲88º ▼78º

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:31 AM, MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Andersen Air Force Base Doppler weather radar shows scattered light showers west of the Marianas waters. These are associated with a shear line which visible satellite shows crossing through the forecast zones near Tinian. This shear line is a bit underwhelming...so far Saipan has received a trace of rain. Other than an increase in clouds, the affects have been muted. Maintained the previous forecast trend of a split in the zones mainly for cloud cover. The next shear line, coming through around Friday, looks more robust. This could actually trigger advisories and result in real rainfall accumulation. Until then, watch for a gradual decrease in cloudiness at Saipan and Tinian, then a couple more days much like today. Pretty dry and a little cooler than normal, so enjoy the modified mid-latitude air a bit longer. It will not last forever, so take advantage of it while it is here.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	89 | 76 °F
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	85 | 77 °F
Yap	Rain	86 | 71 °F
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	84 | 79 °F
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	84 | 78 °F
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	85 | 79 °F
Majuro	Rain	85 | 80 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	69 | 56 °F
Beijing	Clear	62 | 31 °F
Hong Kong	Cloudy	67 | 60 °F
Honolulu	Clear	85 | 70 °F
London	Cloudy	61 | 45 °F
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	85 | 57 °F
Manila	Mostly Cloudy	91 | 77 °F
Melbourne	Clear	90 | 70 °F
Miami	Clear	85 | 57 °F
New York	Clear	32 | 23 °F
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	56 | 40 °F
Paris	Partly Cloudy	60 | 43 °F
Pusan	Clear	54 | 29 °F
Rome	Clear	61 | 41 °F
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	58 | 52 °F
San Francisco	Clear	66 | 51 °F
Seoul	Clear	55 | 28 °F
Tokyo	Overcast	58 | 41 °F
Washington, DC	Snow	36 | 24 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:55 AM	LOW TIDE	0.18
8:58 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.92
3:20 PM	LOW TIDE	0.45
9:01 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.86

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:25 AM	6:27 PM
Wednesday	6:24 AM	6:27 PM
Thursday	6:24 AM	6:27 PM
Friday	6:23 AM	6:27 PM
Saturday	6:22 AM	6:27 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	7:24 AM	7:51 PM
Wednesday	-	8:05 AM	8:40 PM
Thursday	-	8:45 AM	9:29 PM
Friday	-	9:25 AM	10:17 PM
Saturday	-	10:07 AM	11:06 PM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 1, 2017

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:15pm	7:05pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:35am	6:25am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	3:10pm	7:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily
ZE582	4:25pm	8:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	2:55am	6:10am	1, 7
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7
7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	4, 5

SAIPAN-JEJU (CJU)

7C3433	3:55am	7:30am	3, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:20am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:50am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:30am	Daily via GUM
PR1572	5:45am	7:45am	4, 7
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

UO43	1:40am	5:00am	1, 4, 6
HX077	2:15am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ628/723	3:50am	12:50pm	Daily via ICN
PR1572/318	5:45am	12:20pm	4, 7 via MNL
UA6391/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	8:25am	1:45pm	Daily
ZE581	10:15am	3:35pm	Daily
7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	8:15pm	1:35am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	8:30pm	1:20am+1	6, 7
OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
7C3452	9:35pm	2:15am+1	3, 4

JEJU (CJU)-SAIPAN

7C3434	10:05pm	2:40am+1	2, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
PR1571	10:25pm	4:45am+1	3, 6
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
HX076	5:50pm	12:45am+1	3, 7
PR307/1571	6:20pm	4:45am+1	3, 6 via MNL
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Demapan wants car rentals to resolve citations

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Car rental companies on Saipan would soon be forced to settle traffic citations incurred by their clients, mostly tourists, if ever House Bill 20-41 becomes law.

Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) introduced HB 20-41 to establish requirements for vehicle rental businesses.

The public has been complaining about alleged problems encountered with some tourists. Many complain that tourists do not follow traffic rules and regulations while driving rental cars on Saipan's roads.

Department of Public Safety officers often give tourists who violate traffic rules citations, but most of these are not resolved and fines are not paid, as they would only leave the CNMI after spending their vacation here.

There are some incidents when tourists on rental cars would allegedly make a full stop in the middle of the road, drive below the speed limit, make abrupt turns, not use their turn signals while making turns, and not obey traffic lights.

Demapan said the Legislature believes in the importance of supporting the tourism industry but visitors must also be mindful in assuring public safety, especially on the road.

"The Legislature finds that when the actions of individuals who fail to comply with traffic rules continue to increase, further jeopardizing the safety of the community, amendments to the law must be adjusted to augment such safety within the Commonwealth," he said.

Demapan said the intent of HB 20-41 is to make sure all motorists would strictly follow traffic rules and regulations for everyone's safety.

"This legislation will force vehicle owners to be mindful that they will also be held accountable if their vehicle is involved in unresolved traffic citations," Demapan said.

HB 20-41 wants motor vehicle rental business owners not to rent or lease its motor vehicle to any person without a valid driver's license issued from their country of origin.

Rental car customers, meanwhile, must have in their possession an English translation of the rented vehicle agreement with a valid picture driver's license.

Demapan also wants the Bureau of Motor Vehicles not to renew the registration of cars or motor vehicles involved in traffic citations unless all infractions and fines have been paid or settled.

SYP presents: Marketing on a budget

Saipan Young Professionals is collaborating with Donna Krum, president of Friends First Marketing, on a free workshop. "Marketing on a Budget" will take place at the Paradise Dental Center in Gualo Rai on Tuesday, March 21, from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.

In this workshop, participants will learn: How to "get butts in the seat," the value of "showing up and playing nice," how to use a vision board, the power of booth events, how to create marketing pieces that costs only pennies, how to create a "by the way" marketing piece, and how to "brand yourself."

The Saipan Young Professionals started a series of Business 101 workshops in collaboration with CNMI Small Business Development Center's former director, Orrin Pharmin. Since then, other members of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce have reached out to SYP members with free workshops.

"We are grateful for the relationship we have with Chamber members. SYP is honored to have Donna Krum as one of our mentors. We want to thank her for being proactive within our committee and for taking a genuine interest in our plans. We hope to provide other aspiring entrepreneurs an opportunity to gain essential business advice from successful people like Donna," said SYP co-chair Beau Tomokane (Delta Air Lines, operations service manager).

The workshop is completely free to current and aspiring SYP members but space is limited. Must be registered to participate. To reserve your seat, contact the Saipan Chamber office at (670) 234-7150 or email Mercilynn Kaneshi Palec at administrator@saipanchamber.com. ***(SCC)***

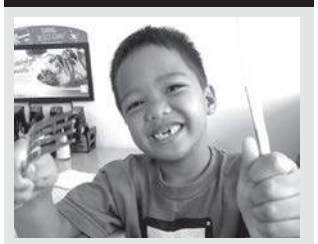
T Galleria, Magas collaborate on clothing line

As part of its efforts to engage island visitors and the community in what is authentic to the Northern Marianas, T Galleria by DFS has collaborated with Saipan's Magas to launch an exciting collection of ready-to-wear.

DFS Saipan general manager Milan Rabold said, "We are pleased to present this new collection in our stores. It represents our commitment to the people and the islands of the Northern Marianas that we serve. It is truly a testament of the spirit and culture of our islands, both to the local community and to those who visit us from around the world. Being able to showcase one of Saipan's premier brands is another great milestone in DFS' history. You will see more of this in the future."

Highlighting the talents of some of Saipan's best, this exclusive collection can only be found at T Galleria in Garapan, the DFS Saipan International Airport store, and at the DFS Galleria-Kanoa Resort. ***(PR)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



Happy 6th birthday to our little ninja turtle, Kaeden Togawa! Thoughtful, kind, and always so helpful, you have grown to make us proud. We love you, son, and we hope you enjoy your special day! Greetings come from Mom, Dad, Dre, and the rest of the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CCA board to meet on March 21

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding its regular meeting on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 3pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president, and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the CCA at 682-0050 or email ccamarianas@gmail.com. ***(CCA)***

Mobile consular outreach on Saipan

The Philippine Consulate General in Agana, Guam, in coordination with Philippine honorary consul Glicerio Arago, will hold a mobile consular outreach on Saipan on March 19-22 at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Hall in Susupe.

All e-passport applications require "personal appearance". Please wear proper attire (i.e. shirt with collar). Applicants on the list are advised to be present at the venue on the date and time indicated in the schedule.

For more information and confirmation, please call (670)233-6293 and ask for Mel Santos. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.crm.gov.mp

PUBLIC NOTICE

Payment Procedures for DCRM Permit Fees

CNMI Administrative Code §15-10-205(f) requires all Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) permit applications to be accompanied by a non-refundable DCRM permit application fee in accordance with the fee schedule set. All payments are to be remitted to the CNMI Treasurer.

Effective March 20, 2017, all DCRM permit applicants are required to obtain a payment voucher from DCRM before remitting payment for any and all application fees to the CNMI Treasurer. All payments made to the CNMI Treasurer must be accompanied by a DCRM payment voucher. DCRM will require all receipts of transactions to be accompanied by a payment voucher when submitting any and all applications.

/s/Frances A. Castro
Director
Division of Coastal Resources Management

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-DPW/FHWA-110 (A) (B)

SUBMISSION DATE: APRIL 13, 2017 TIME: 10:30 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) LAPTOP COMPUTERS AND SOFTWARE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, HIGHWAY BRANCH"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY **LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN**, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JAMES A. ADA
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

HEAD START • EARLY HEAD START
Child Care Partnership
"A Comprehensive Bith to Five Program"
Tel (670) 664-3751 • Fax (670) 664•3760 • PO Box 501370, Saipan MP 96950

Head Start Policy Council
Final Meeting Agenda

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Head Start Policy Council hereby gives notice that it will have a Regular Meeting on Thursday, March 16, 2017 at 5:00p.m., at the Office of Systems of Care Hali Ina'guiaya, 1st Floor Alexander Bldg., Oleai, Saipan.

I. **Preliminary Matters**
  1. Call to Order
  2. Roll Call
  3. Quorum
  4. Adoption of Agenda
  5. Adoption of Minutes
    a. December 7, Turn Over Meeting

II. **Public Comments**

III. **Communications**
  1. State Board of Education
  2. Office of Head Start
    a. Head Start Program Refunding Letter
    b. Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Refunding Letter
    c. Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Under enrollment Letter

IV. **Reports**
  1. Program
    a. Director
    b. Manager
  2. Financial Status
  3. Center /Community Representative

V. **Old Business**

VI. **New Business**
  1. Organizational Chart Head Start/Early Head Start
  2. SY 2015-2016 Annual Report Head Start/Early Head Start
  3. Early Head Start Child Care Partnership
    a. Under-enrollment Plan b. Request to Convert Partnership Slot
  4. Updated School Readiness Goals
  5. SY 2016-2017 Program Self-Assessment Report
  6. SY 2016-2017 Community Assessment Report
  7. SY 2017-2018 Proposed School Calendars
    a. Early Head Start
    b. Head Start Full Day
    b. Head Start Part Day
  8. FY 2017-2018 Grant Application and Narrative
    a. Head Start
    b. Early Head Start Child-Care Partnership
  9. SY 2017-2018 Selection Criteria
  10. Parent Activity Fund
    a. Chalan Kanoa
    b. JMR
    c. Oleai
    d. Dandan
    e. Kagman
    f. San Antonio
    g. Tanapag
    h. Tinian
    i. Rota

VII. **Executive Session2**
VIII. **Next Meeting**
IX. **Adjournment**

This meeting is open to the public, interested individuals are welcome to attend. Any person(s) requiring special accommodations may contact Mrs. Candace Q. Celis at (670) 664-3761 or email address at candace.celis@cnmipss.org, several days of notice is required.

/s/ Ana Ada,
Chairwoman

[1] Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
[2] Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Council may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM, DR-4235-MP
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Caller Box 10007
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-2375
Fax: (670) 664-2408

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Generator System Supply and Installation- Department of Public Safety
RFP17-GOV-076

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the CNMI Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified contractors to supply and install a generator for the Department of Public Safety on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, currently in effect, and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC) §70-30-3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30.3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the CNMI.

The project package will be available beginning February 28, 2017 at the Governor's CIP Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan. A pre-proposal meeting regarding this project will be held at 10:00 a.m. on March 16, 2017 at the Department Public Safety conference room in Susupe.

Questions about this request for proposal shall be addressed to the HMGP Office attn.: Leona DLG. Sablan, in writing via e-mail: leona.cip@gmail.com or facsimile (670) 664-2408 no later than 4:00 p.m., ChST, March 22, 2017.

The total proposal length shall not exceed 15 pages in length. A contractor that submits a proposal as a prime contractor cannot also submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, as a subcontractor, a company may be included in multiple proposals by different contractors.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1.	Qualifications and experience on similar projects	30%
2.	Work load and resources to accomplish work	10%
3.	Project Approach & Schedule	10%
4.	Cost	50%

Performance time for completion of this project is 120 calendar days upon issuance of notice to proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by 120 calendar days, the contract price and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

Discussions shall be conducted with the top 3 ranked contractors. After a selection is made, negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified contractor to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The successful proposers will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Proposals must be sealed and marked RFP17-GOV-076 Generator System Supply and Installation- Department of Public Safety. For proposers within the CNMI, one original and three (3) copies of the proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan no later than 10:00 a.m. ChST, April 6, 2017. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of intent to propose. Notices of intent to propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., ChST, April 6, 2017 and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com.

For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and three (3) copies of the sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than, April 6, 2017 and must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than April 18, 2017. Failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfection in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.

Virginia C. Villagomez
Governor's Authorized Representative

Herman S. Sablan
Director of Procurement and Supply

$1.7M grants for territories, FAS

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Acting Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular Areas Nikolao Pula has approved three technical assistance grants totaling over $1.7 million.

"These funds demonstrate, in part, our support for commitments and important programs which continue to benefit people in the U.S. territories and the freely associated states," said Pula. "We continue to work closely with the governors of the U.S. territories and the presidents of the FAS to make sure that U.S. taxpayer dollars are used correctly and in the nation's best interests."

PSTF administration

The first technical assistance grant is for the administration of the Prior Service Trust Fund in the amount of $865,800. This grant continues funding employee benefits under the terms of the Prior Service Trust Fund, a responsibility assumed by the federal government following the dissolution of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. The program allows the three FAS governments and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to pay benefits to former TTPI employees and cover PSTFA expenses.

Healthcare program

Funded at $697,387, the second technical assistance grant provides continuing health care to the peoples of the four Marshall Islands atolls. Through this program, the Office of Insular Affairs offers the services of full-time, primary-care physicians and nurses to approximately 3,000 atoll residents who still bear the consequences of the nuclear tests conducted on these islands from 1946 to 1958.

This grant:

- improves access to specialty services such as those for diabetes, hypertension, visual impairment and maternal and child care
- reduces interisland referrals for secondary care
- improves overall health
- utilizes the full potential of physicians for better delivery of services
- conducts drinking water quality testing for the presence of pathogens

Association grants

The third technical assistance grant is for $139,500 to the All-Island Tax Administrators Association for its 2017 and 2018 conferences. Consisting of the four U.S. territories (American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mariana Islands) and two of the three FAS (the Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, and Palau), the AITAA gives territorial and FAS tax agencies a voice to address concerns or promote tax laws to the Departments of the Interior, the Treasury, and the Internal Revenue Service. The 2017 conference will take place this June in Saint Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. ***(OIA)***

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
WUSHIN CORPORATION

ACCOUNTANT (1)
- Prepare, examine and analyze accounting records, financial statements, and other financial reports to assess accuracy, completeness and conformance to reporting and procedural standards.
- Compute taxes owed and prepare tax returns ensuring compliance with payment, reporting and other tax requirements.
- Analyze business operations, trends, costs, revenues, financial commitments and obligations to project futures revenues and expenses
- Report to management regarding the finances of the company
- Established tables of accounts, and assign entries to proper accounts;
- Maintain and analyze budgets preparing monthly profit & loss reports;
- Develop, implement, modify and document record keeping and accounting system
- Prepares payroll
- Prepare and reconcile Bank Statement;
- And perform other related duties as required

Bachelor's Degree in Accounting with 5 years progressive experience, Familiar with petroleum Industry activities. Must have good communication skills and can do multitasking. Organized, self-motivated, responsible and able to manage deadlines. Proficient in Peachtree, Excel and MS Word software.

BOOKKEPER (1)
- Must be efficient in handling financial reports and statements and have knowledge in dealing with LPG, computation of taxes, payroll and others.

College Degree in Accounting with at least 3 years experience work related in General Accounting. Proficient in Peachtree Accounting System, MS Excel and Word. Must be able to work under pressure and must be able to manage deadlines.

LPG EQUIPMENT / TANK TRUCK MECHANIC (1)
- Repairing and Maintenance of LPG cargo tank including complete valve installation and metering system;
- Troubleshoot LPG lines, hose, and emergency shutdown remote device;
- Diagnose, maintain and tank truck hose and metering system;
- Make recommendations and perform equipment installation, replacement and modification as required.
- Monitoring tank truck drivers in the implementation of the preventive maintenance program required for LPG cargo tank;
- Lay-out, installs, and repairs and replace gauges, valves, pressure regulators and related equipment; and perform related other duties as required.

Minimum of 5 years experience specifically dealing with LPG Business. Must have experience in safety practices and Hazmat security procedures. Training Certificate of Hazardous materials and Dangerous goods is required. Commercial driver's Health Certificate is required. Must possess a current and valid CNMI driver's license and not be disqualified to drive a motors vehicle, police and court clearance.

LPG MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN (1)
- Loading and unloading of LPG Gas isotainer to LPG storage tank with safety procedures
- Perform LPG equipment installation
- Perform LPG gas sales, delivering, connecting and maintaining LPG gas equipment
- Be able to assist and resolve customer complaints, and perform other related duties as required.

Must have 5 years work related experience. Must have the ability to perform LPG equipment installation. Training certificate in Hazmat transportation is required. Commercial driver's health certificate is required. Must have a current and valid CNMI driver's license and not be disqualified to drive a motor vehicle

LPG TANK TRUCK DRIVER (1)
- To unload LPGas from isotainer to storage tank. Load LPGas from storage tank to cargo tank truck and to unload LPGas from cargo tank truck to customer's storage tank.
- Record LPG inventory loaded from storage tank and to record LPG delivered to customer
- Provides sales invoice to customer. Monitor cargo tank truck gauges or meters while loading /unloading to ensure accuracy of quantity delivered. Monitor loading/unloading of LPG with safety procedures.
- Driver's enroute security procedures and pre-tip vehicle inspection must be observed and performed.
- Perform other related duties as required

Must have 5 years experience as LPG Tank Driver. Must be a trained Hazmat tank truck driver. Safety training certificate iof hazardous materials/transportation of dangerous goods is required. Have a driving record eith safety standars in regards to preventable motor vehicle accidents and violation of motor vechile laws. Must be physically qualified to drive a MC331 cargo tank truck. Must have a current and valid CNMI driver's license and not be disqualified to drive a motor vehicle/ Police/court clearance and commercial driver's health certificate are required.

Interested applicants must submit an application or resume at our office, located in Industrial Drive, Lower Base or send an email to wushin2@pticom.com.

Wushin Corporation is an equal opportunity employer and has a drug free work environment. Pre-employment drug testing may be required.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
D&W ENTERPRISES, INC.

ACCOUNTANT (1)
- Prepare, examine and analyze accounting records, financial statements, and other financial reports to assess accuracy, completeness and conformance to reporting and procedural standards.
- Compute taxes owed and prepare tax returns ensuring compliance with payment, reporting and other tax requirements.
- Analyze business operations, trends, costs, revenues, financial commitments and obligations to project futures revenues and expenses
- Report to management regarding the finances of the company
- Established tables of accounts, and assign entries to proper accounts;
- Maintain and analyze budgets preparing monthly profit & loss reports;
- Develop, implement, modify and document record keeping and accounting system
- Prepares payroll
- Prepare and reconcile Bank Statement;
- And perform other related duties as required

Bachelor's Degree in Accounting with 5 years progressive experience, Familiar with petroleum Industry activities. Must have good communication skills and can do multitasking. Organized, self-motivated, responsible and able to manage deadlines. Proficient in Peachtree, Excel and MS Word software.

DIESEL TANK TRUCK DRIVER (1)
- Operates commercial motor vehicle that transports hazardous materials such as petroleum diesel
- Read tank truck gauges or meter; handle sales, respond incase of spillage and emergency;
- Repair and maintain tank truck to assure good condition; monitor the under chassis parts; procedures, electrical circuits and lightings, must observe in route security.

Must have 5 years experience as Hazmat Tank truck Driver, Hazmat Training Certificate is required. Familiar in handling Hazmat Materials and Dangerous goods. Commercial Driver's Health Certificate is required. Must possess a current and valid CNMI driver's license and not disqualified to drive a motor vehicle and Court/Police Clearance is required.

Interested applicants must submit an application or resume at our office, located in Industrial Drive, Lower Base or send an email to wushin2@pticom.com.

D&W Enterprises, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer and has a drug free work environment. Pre-employment drug testing may be required.

Job Vacancy Announcements
YANO Enterprises, Inc. dba: Kinpachi Restaurant

Assistant Manager (1): Be able to assist the general manager in the supervision of business establishment to ensure the restaurant & stores efficiency & profitable operations; work closely with the personnel in preparation & processing of reservations, greets & answers customers inquiry, patrons complaints & resolve problems. Prepare advertising campaigns of the restaurant & stores to attract customers. Assist in doing daily inventory of foods, merchandise and assets of the business. Duties include but are not limited to delegating authority & assigning responsibilities, reviewing financial transactions & monitoring budget limitations, & be able to present written & oral reports on the company's financial & operational status. Must have Japanese oral skills & knowledge of Japanese food products.

Restaurant Supervisor (3): Must be qualified in restaurant operations, customer service, menu planning, & reservation operations. Must be responsible for the supervision of staff as to dining areas cleanliness in appearance & outside grounds. Ensure any customers issues are addressed immediately and resolved in a manner which exceeds the customer's expectation. Also need to have basic Japanese oral skills. Must have an extensive knowledge of Japanese food products & be able to make orders & preparations.

Accountant (2): Must be efficient in handling financial records, statements, & reports. Have knowledge on all Taxes computation & filing. Must be able to budget & estimate purchasing costs & requisitions of merchandise necessary in the company.

Restaurant Waitress (3): Greeting Customers. Must be able to speak basic Japanese & efficient English & have a friendly & outgoing personality. Should be knowledgeable of the restaurant dishes, familiar with the entire menu the establishment offers. Can introduce & recommend daily specials as well as the restaurant's regular menu items. Continued services after the meal have been served and accept payments & other duties related.

Cook (8): Must be experienced & skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, sashimi, & tempura. Can prepare all menu items according to quantity menus, must know cutting and preparation techniques for each type of fish used in sushi rolls as well as how to prepare rice, sauces and seasonal ingredients, must ensure that ingredients are fresh, colorful and always in stock, that the all-important knives are sharp and clean, and that all equipment is in working order. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties.

General Maintenance (3): Must have a valid CNMI driver's license and flexible in work hours. Duties may involve skills in electrical, plumbing, carpentry, masonry, painting, landscape or maintain grounds of property using hand or power tools or equipment. Can typically perform variety of task such as sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking and installing , repairing buildings, floors or stairs.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain required food handler health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test. Can work in flexible hours including weekends and night time.

Applicants of positions listed above except Restaurant Waitress (3 months work experience) are required to have a minimum of 2 - 4 year experience. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will be considered.

Interested applicants must apply in person, applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.

Please no phone calls.

Bill defining CPA's industrial port use now law

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has signed into law a bill that defines the Commonwealth Ports Authority's industrial ports use and other port-related operations in leasing public lands.

Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian)'s Senate Bill 20-16, SD1 is now Public Law 20-1. It defines industrial port use, port-related operations and leasing public lands for a public purpose.

PL 20-1 recognizes the CPA's responsibility in developing air and sea navigation and transportation within the CNMI and its role in promoting the cultural, economic, and political advancement of the people of the Commonwealth.

"The Legislature finds a need to clarify and define parameters for use of public lands by CPA and what constitutes use of such land for a public purpose. Specifically, the Legislature finds that the term 'port connected purpose' used in the existing powers and duties of CPA provided in PL 2-48 requires specific definition," states PL 20-1.

The Legislature wants the term "port" to be updated so it would reflect the proper names of the CNMI's ports.

"The Legislature finds that the Rota West Harbor includes a marina that is currently managed by the Department of Lands and Natural Resources under a memorandum of agreement between CPA and DLNR in order to receive federal funds and to maintain [it]."

"The CPA, by necessity and design, engages in commercial activity in order to fulfill its public purpose and its mandate to develop air and sea navigation in the [CNMI] to the fullest potential."

The commercial activity is done to expand, improve, and develop the ports and its other facilities in the CNMI.

Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), vice president Steve K. Mesngon (R-Rota), floor leader Francisco M. Borja (R-Tinian) were Hofschneider's co-authors, along with Sens. Francisco Q. Cruz (R-Tinian), Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan), Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota), Justo S. Quitugua (Ind-Saipan), and Teresita A. Santos (R-Rota).

SB 20-16 was referred to the Senate Resources, Economic Development and Programs Committee that was chaired by Borja. The Senate passed it on Feb. 23 in their first regular session and the House on Feb. 28.

Business

Trump budget timeline mixes deadlines, uncertainty

President Donald Trump's release of a spending blueprint for the upcoming budget year will set in motion a debate that's full of uncertainty—and the potential for gridlock, even a government shutdown.

There's also a more immediate quandary: What to do about the current budget year?

None of the 12 annual appropriations bills has been enacted and a temporary funding measure expires next month. Trump's signature is needed on what promises to be an omnibus spending bill with a $1 trillion-plus price tag. The path toward passage may be rocky, given the political land mines such as the border wall and a budget-busting supplemental Pentagon request.

Some key dates in the process:

■ Early March: With Wednesday's deadline to increase the government's borrowing authority looming, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said he would use bookkeeping measures to avert a first-ever government default on U.S. obligations such as Social Security benefits and interest payments. Such "extraordinary measures" will buy time until the fall for lawmakers to approve legislation increasing the debt limit.

■ Thursday: Trump submits a budget covering only discretionary spending. That's the $1 trillion-plus portion of the $4 trillion federal budget that passes through Congress each year. Trump's plan will boost the Pentagon's budget by $54 billion—about 10 percent—while cutting domestic programs and foreign aid by an equal amount.

AP

In this Feb. 27, 2017, file photo, budget director Mick Mulvaney speaks to reporters at the White House in Washington.

No reason disciplined boss can't stop workers' bickering

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of "Secrets to Winning at Office Politics." Send in questions and get free coaching tips at http://www.yourofficecoach.com, or follow her on Twitter @ officecoach.

Q: I recently began supervising a group of five women who all seem to hate each other. Although I have heard other managers complain about the phenomenon of overseeing such a group, I have never encountered it before. I had a discussion with the group's primary troublemakers, but so far there has been no improvement. How am I supposed to handle all this drama?

A: If the juvenile bickering stems from job-related issues, then you must help your group resolve them. But if this hostility seems personal, then it's time to establish some non-negotiable expectations. Here's one way to kick off that discussion:

"Unfortunately, I have some serious concerns about the future of this group. Although you have the potential to be a successful team, right now there is a lot of childish squabbling. So I'm going to explain what needs to change, then you must each decide whether you can meet those expectations.

"First, let me emphasize that co-workers don't have to like each other. Since you don't get to choose your co-workers, you probably won't like all of them. But you still must be able to work with everyone, regardless of how you feel about them.

"Specifically, you are expected to be consistently pleasant, helpful and cooperative with one another. Those are the three words to remember: pleasant, helpful and cooperative. I will be glad to help you solve any work-related problems, but the personal quarrels must stop now.

"As a group, we need to create a more mature, professional office environment. I will be talking with each of you privately about your plan for making this happen because that will be a requirement for continuing to work here."

Changing the culture of your combative team will require follow-through and persistence. But if you recognize those who comply, correct those who resist and get rid of anyone who refuses to change, the drama will eventually disappear.

Q: The owner of our small business is extremely rude. "Mike" is highly judgmental and often makes negative comments to the staff. He is also extremely moody and frequently changes his mind, so you never know how he's going to react.

To be fair, I feel blessed to have this job because Mike is very understanding about my family needs. He lets me leave early for appointments and I can work from home when my child is sick. However, I'm beginning to resent his rudeness, so I would like to clear the air. How can I share my feelings without risking my job security?

A: "Clearing the air" might be helpful with a friend or colleague but it is seldom advisable with a boss. Criticizing an erratic business owner could easily jeopardize your job. So, while expressing these emotions might make you feel better, losing your schedule flexibility could be a high price to pay.

If Mike's cranky personality becomes unbearable, it may be time to look elsewhere. But if child-friendly jobs are few and far between in your area, perhaps you should simply try to shift your focus. If you make a conscious effort to look past Mike's annoying flaws and see his positive traits, your resentment may gradually decrease.

Nation

MCCAIN TO TRUMP:

Provide wiretap evidence or retract claim

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House intelligence committee is asking the Trump administration for evidence that the phones at Trump Tower were tapped during the campaign as its namesake has charged, a request reinforced Sunday by an influential Republican senator who says the president must either come up with the evidence or retract his claim.

"I think the president has one of two choices: either retract or to provide the information that the American people deserve, because, if his predecessor violated the law, President Obama violated the law, we have got a serious issue here, to say the least," Sen. John McCain said.

President Donald Trump asserted in a tweet last week: "Terrible! Just found out that Obama had my 'wires tapped' in Trump Tower just before the victory. Nothing found. This is McCarthyism!" He continued the allegation against former President Barack Obama in other tweets but offered no evidence.

The request for evidence by Monday was made in a letter sent to the Justice Department by the House committee chairman, Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Calif., and the panel's ranking Democrat, Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., a senior congressional aide said Saturday. The aide wasn't authorized to discuss the request by name and requested anonymity.

Obama's director of national intelligence, James Clapper, has said that nothing matching Trump's claims had taken place, but that has not quelled speculation that Trump's communications were monitored by the Obama administration. Trump has asked Congress to investigate.

Early this past week, Schiff said the committee would answer the president's call to investigate the claim. He also said he would ask FBI Director James Comey directly when he appears later this month before the full committee, which is investigating Russian activities during the election.

On Sunday, Schiff said he doubted there was any evidence of wiretapping, but that Comey and others called to testify at the upcoming hearing "would be in a position to have to know."

"I think on March 20 if not before we'll be able to put this to rest," Schiff told George Stephanopoulos on ABC's "This Week." ''I don't think anyone has any question about this, George. The only question is why the president would make up such a thing."

McCain said Trump could "clear this up in a minute" if he were to call "the director of the CIA, director of national intelligence and say, 'OK, what happened?'"

The president has an obligation to provide evidence that Obama broke the law or retract his claim, the Arizona Republican said.

"I do believe on issues such as this, accusing a former president of the United States of something which is not only illegal, but just unheard of, that requires corroboration. I'll let the American people be the judge, but this is serious stuff," McCain said on CNN's "State of the Union."

Kellyanne Conway, a counselor to the president, said Sunday on Fox News Channel's "MediaBuzz that the House and Senate intelligence committees have agreed to investigate and "we'll make a comment after those findings are complete."

Nunes has said that so far he has not seen any evidence to back up Trump's claim and has suggested the news media were taking the president's weekend tweets too literally.

"The president is a neophyte to politics - he's been doing this a little over a year," Nunes told reporters this past week.

Abrupt dismissals spark turmoil among federal prosecutors

WASHINGTON (AP)—Two days before Attorney General Jeff Sessions ordered dozens of the country's top federal prosecutors to clean out their desks, he gave those political appointees a pep talk during a conference call.

The seemingly abrupt about-face Friday left the affected U.S. attorneys scrambling to brief the people left behind and say goodbye to colleagues. It also could have an impact on morale for the career prosecutors who now must pick up the slack, according to some close to the process. The quick exits aren't expected to have a major impact on ongoing prosecutions, but they gave U.S. attorneys little time to prepare deputies who will take over until successors are named.

"It's very, very gut-level reaction," said Steven Schleicher, a former prosecutor who left Minnesota U.S. Attorney Andrew Luger's office in January and was still in contact with people there.

The request for resignations from the 46 prosecutors who were holdovers from the Obama administration wasn't shocking. It's fairly customary for the 93 U.S. attorneys to leave their posts once a new president is in office, and many had already left or were making plans for their departures. Sessions himself was asked to resign as a U.S. attorney in a similar purge by Attorney General Janet Reno in 1993.

But the abrupt nature of the dismissals—done with little explanation and not always with the customary thanks for years of service—stunned and angered some of those left behind in offices around the country.

Former prosecutors, friends and colleagues immediately started reaching out to each other on a growing email chain to express condolences and support, commiserating about how unfair they felt the situation was. One U.S. attorney was out of state on Friday and was forced to say goodbye to his office by a blast email, said Tim Purdon, a former U.S. attorney from North Dakota who was included on the email chain.

Some of those ousted were longtime prosecutors who had spent their careers coming up through the ranks of the Justice Department. John W. Vaudreuil, U.S. attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, became an assistant U.S. attorney in that office in 1980. Another, Richard S. Hartunian of the Northern District of New York, joined the Justice Department in the 1990s.

"All of these U.S. attorneys know they serve at the pleasure of the president. No one complains about that," said John Walsh, an Obama-era appointee as U.S. attorney in Colorado who resigned in July. "But it was handled in a way that was disrespectful to the U.S. attorneys because they were almost treated as though they had done something wrong, when in fact they had not."

FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN

is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following vacant position:

(11) Steward – (Part-Time)
Qualification: High School graduate or equivalent. Over 6 months progressive experience in stewarding capacities. Able to perform assigned duties with great attention to detail, pace, correctness and good manners. Ability to prioritize and arrange assignment is essential. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including weekends, nights, early morning hours and holidays.

(6) Cook – (Part-Time)
Qualification: High School graduate or equivalent with 3 years work experience preferably in a full service hotel. Basic culinary and good hygiene knowledge is essential. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

(2) Cook – Pastry (Part-Time)
Qualification: High School graduate or equivalent with 2 years work experience in mixing and baking ingredients to produce breads, rolls, cookies, cakes, pies, pastries or other baked goods. Good hygiene knowledge is essential. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

(3) Wait Staff (Part-Time)
Qualification: High School graduate or equivalent. At least 6 months serving experience required or 6 months current hosting experience. Restaurant and beverages experience preferred. Proven knowledge of Micros or equivalent computer software and cash check, credit card handling procedures required. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

(22) Housekeeping Cleaner (Part-Time)
Qualification: High School graduate or equivalent. Minimum of 6 months work experience preferably in a full service hotel. Must be able to speak and write in English. Ability to speak basic foreign language is a plus. Good customer service skills are essential. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

(3) Laundry Attendant (Part-Time)
Qualification: Employees in these occupations need anywhere from a few months to one year of working with experienced employees. A recognized apprenticeship program may be associated with these occupations. Experience as a laundry worker is required, preferably from a full service hotel or establishment such as a hospital. Must be able to lift and carry 35 pounds. Must be able to stand on feet throughout work shift. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, back-to-back, nights and holidays. Strong communication and interpersonal skills are essential.

(2) General Maintenance Worker/Repairer (Part-Time)
Qualification: Minimum of 2 years work experience as a handyman preferably in a full service hotel or in a similar large building or complex with central plant. Willingness to work outside (if necessary) in inclement weather. Must be able to carry and lift heavy objects. Possession of a valid driver's license is essential. Perform work involving skills of two or more maintenance craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of an establishment in repair. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

(1) Mason (Part-Time)
Qualification: 2 years experience as a mason is required. Exhibit a personality that demonstrates interpersonal skills to internal customers. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including weekends and holidays.

(3) Electrician (Part-Time)
Qualification: High School graduate or equivalent. Minimum of 5 years work experience required. Provide access for future maintenance and avoid unreliable wiring, consistent with verification and electrical codes, and other related duties as assigned. Capable of reading schematic diagram, and electrical symbols, knowledgeable on industrial electricity, circuit breakers, switches and controls. Must work in a flexible way that allows for changes in assignments and priorities depending upon identified needs of the department. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

(2) Painter (Part-Time)
Qualification: 2 years experience as a painter is required. Must have an eye for detail and good judgment. Must be able to carry and lift up to 35 pounds. Able to work a flexible schedule including weekends and holidays.

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Qualification: Minimum of 2 to 3 years previous work experience in this field. Cultivates and cares for ornamental plants and installs floral displays indoor or outdoor settings through performance of any combination of following duties as directed by supervisory personnel. Able to work a variable schedule on occasion including weekends.

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(1) Carpenter (Part-time)
Qualification: High School graduate or equivalent. 2 years carpentry experience; or any equivalent combination of experience and/or education from which comparable knowledge, skills, and abilities have been achieved. Incumbents in this classification are exposed to restricted and intense noise inherent to carpentry positions. Incumbent must lift and carry heavy objects.

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Asia

PH, communist rebels agree to resume talks

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine government and communist rebels have agreed to resume peace talks and restore separate cease-fires after an escalation of deadly clashes, officials said Sunday.

Government and rebel negotiators will resume talks early next month and discuss the terms of a broader cease-fire, presidential adviser Jesus Dureza said. Norway, which has been brokering the negotiations, hosted two days of informal talks in the Netherlands that led to a decision to resume the negotiations on ending one of Asia's longest-running rebellions.

Just three days ago, President Rodrigo Duterte threatened to unleash an all-out war against the New People's Army guerrillas after they killed four policemen and wounded another in an ambush in southern Davao del Sur province.

"I'm ready for all-out war, another 50 years," Duterte said Thursday at the policemen's wake. "I can assure you that the armed forces and the Philippine National Police would respond. This time I'm using everything ... rockets and bombs."

Duterte did not mention the talks' resumption in his speech at the annual graduation of cadets at the Philippine Military Academy Sunday in northern Baguio city, where he instead condoled with the families of government troops who died in combat. He promised better and more weapons for soldiers and thanked "those who risked their lives and limbs to defend this country's sovereignty as well as those who continue to offer their sweat and blood to fortify the pillars of a great nation that we are presently trying to build."

The military welcomed news of the breakthrough but said it would await formal notice from government negotiators and Duterte's instructions. "Pending this, all military operations will continue and remain at current state," the military said in a statement.

The Maoist guerrillas said they would remain vigilant because of continuing military and police counterinsurgency operations but added they were optimistic with the talks' resumption.

"Instead of putting the lives of millions of people in harm's way, such as Duterte's all-out-war declaration, better yet we try to settle our differences on the negotiating table," said the rebels' Melito Glor command, which has a presence in the mountainous provinces south of Manila.

Malaysia says only 315 North Koreans left in the country

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Malaysia's deputy prime minister said Sunday that 315 North Koreans are in the country and barred from leaving amid a diplomatic dispute over the killing of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's estranged half brother.

The figure is lower than an estimate previously given by a government official, who had told The Associated Press that some 1,000 North Koreans were believed to be in Malaysia.

Malaysia says Kim Jong Nam died after two women smeared his face with the banned VX nerve agent at Kuala Lumpur's airport on Feb. 13, but North Korea—which is widely suspected to be behind the attack—rejects the findings.

Relations have steadily deteriorated, with each country expelling the other's ambassador. On Tuesday, North Korea blocked all Malaysians from leaving the country until a "fair settlement" of the case was reached. Malaysia then barred North Koreans from exiting its soil.

Both countries have also scrapped visa-free travel for each other's citizens.

Deputy Prime Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi told local media on Sunday that 2,453 North Koreans came to Malaysia from 2014 to 2017, but that the latest record showed only 315 remained.

Foreign Minister Anifah Aman said Saturday that the government hopes to begin formal talks with North Korea in the "next few days" on the release of the nine Malaysians who are in Pyongyang, comprising three embassy workers and their family members.

Anifah also said the return of Kim's body would be part of the talks' agenda.

Report: Park's advisers offer to resign after her ouster

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—A news report says the senior advisers to ousted South Korean President Park Geun-hye have offered to resign days after the country's Constitutional Court formally ended her rule over a corruption scandal.

Park, whose power had been suspended in a parliamentary impeachment vote in December, was formally removed from office Friday after the court dismissed her from the top post. Park vacated the presidential office on Sunday.

Yonhap news agency says nine senior presidential advisers tendered their resignations to acting leader Hwang Kyo-ahn on Monday.

Hwang's office could not immediately confirm the report.

Park will now likely face a direct investigation over the scandal that has resulted in dozens of high-profile figures facing criminal charges.

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Applicants of position listed above are required to have a minimum of 2-3 years of experience.

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College degree in Radiology from a school approved by the Commonwealth Board of Nurse Examiners (CBNE), with two (2) years of relevant work experience as a Radiology Technician. Must have the ability to take, review, evaluate and operate X-Ray, Ultrasound, Mammogram and Echocardiogram equipment. Must be licensed under Health Care Professions Licensing Board as a Radiology Technician in the CNMI. Must have the ability to work proficiently in a fast paced clinical environment.

(2) Registered Nurse (RN)
College graduate degree in Nursing from a school approved by the Commonwealth Board of Nurse Examiners (CBNE), with two (2) years of work experience as a nurse or working in a similar capacity in a health care or medical setting. Must pass US NCLEX-RN and is licensed as an RN by CBNE. Must have the ability to work proficiently in a fast paced clinical environment. Ability to speak and translate in the Chinese language is preferred.

(1) Electrician Maintenance
High school diploma or GED, plus five (5) years of relevant work experience.

All positions close 5:00pm on Monday, March 27, 2017.
Applications are available at the Marianas Medical Center. Applications should include a resume and evidence of education degree(s) and professional licenses claimed. It should also include a valid Police Clearance of no more than 6 months old. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Testing may be required for some positions. Marianas Medical Center is an equal opportunity employer.

World

Turkish leader says Dutch will 'pay the price' for insult

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands (AP)—Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan intensified his dispute with European nations Sunday, claiming that "Nazism is alive in the West" after two of his ministers were prevented from campaigning in the Netherlands and promising that the Dutch would "pay the price" for their unusual action.

While Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte worked to contain the diplomatic damage, Erdogan made it clear that Turkey would not be easily appeased.

He said Ankara would retaliate for the treatment of the Turkish family affairs minister, who on Saturday was blocked by police in riot gear from entering her country's consulate in Rotterdam.

That came hours after Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu was denied airport landing rights to address crowds at a Rotterdam rally.

Saying that he was wrong to think Nazism was over, Erdogan made the comment to an audience in Istanbul. The remarks were similar to ones he made about Germany earlier this month.

The Dutch prime minster said it was important for his government not to bow to pressure from Turkey, especially after Ankara threatened sanctions if the Dutch kept Turkish ministers out.

AP

Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan talks during a rally in Istanbul, Sunday, March 12, 2017.

"Turkey is a proud nation. The Netherlands is a proud nation. We can never do business under those sorts of threats and blackmail," said Mark Rutte, whose party is locked in a neck-and-neck race with populist firebrand Geert Wilders.

To bolster support for an April 16 referendum that would expand the powers of Turkey's president, Turkish cabinet ministers have scheduled campaign trips to several European countries with sizable populations of Turkish expatriates.

However, some European nations have complained that Turkey under Erdogan is slipping toward authoritarian practices, especially since last summer's aborted coup. Rutte cited that concern in asking Cavusoglu not to come to the Netherlands.

The furor between two NATO allies comes at a crucial time in the Netherlands, where issues of Dutch identity, relations with migrant communities and Islam have taken center stage in the run-up to a national election on Wednesday.

Rutte's actions, which came two days after several German municipalities canceled rallies that Turkish Cabinet ministers had planned to address, prompted Erdogan on Saturday to accuse the Dutch of being "Nazi remnants."

On Sunday, he heaped on more criticism while demanding an apology from the Dutch.

"If you sacrifice Turkish-Dutch relations to the elections on Wednesday, then you will pay the price," Erdogan warned.

"Those who unleash the dogs and their hatred will pay the price," he added in reference to images showing police dogs biting pro-Erdogan protesters who gathered outside the consulate.

Dutch Foreign Minister Bert Koenders said no apologies would be forthcoming.

Addressing crowds at a campaign rally later, Erdogan called on international organizations to impose sanctions on the Netherlands and urged the European Union to speak out against the Dutch.

"What took place in the Netherlands was the trampling of diplomacy, international law, practice, decency. Is there a peep coming out of Europe? No. Why? Because they won't bite one another. They are all the same. The Netherlands did not behave like a European Union member state governed by the rule of law, but like a banana republic."

Amid the sparring, Cavosoglu was allowed to campaign Sunday in the northern French city of Metz a day after he was banned from speaking in the Netherlands. He told hundreds of supporters there that the Dutch would be forced to "account" regardless of an apology and called the Netherlands the "capital of fascism."

Alain Carton, secretary general of the Metz prefecture, said the rally presented no threat to public order and was permitted in the name of the freedom of assembly.

France's foreign minister, Jean-Marc Ayrault, called for the calming of tensions between some European countries and Turkey. He also urged Turkish authorities to "avoid excesses and provocations."

About 100 supporters draped in Turkish flags greeted Cavusoglu as he reached the Centre des Congres of Metz.

"I am disappointed by Holland because they speak of democracy and freedom but it is not the case. To not allow a speech, it's sad. We are all disappointed," said Beatrice Bozkus, a Metz resident who attended the rally.

The Netherlands said Turkish attempts to campaign here touched at the heart of Dutch citizenship, although hundreds of thousands of residents have Turkish roots and many still feel committed to their ancestral homeland.

UNICEF says 2016 was worst year yet for Syria's children

BEIRUT (AP)—At least 652 children were killed in Syria in 2016, making it the worst year yet for the country's rising generation, the United Nations' child relief agency said Monday.

There was no letup to attacks on schools, hospitals, playgrounds, parks and homes last year as the Syrian government, its opponents and the allies of both sides showed callous disregard for the laws of war.

UNICEF said at least 255 children were killed in or near schools last year and 1.7 million youngsters are out of school. One of every three schools in Syria is unusable, some because armed groups occupy them. An additional 2.3 million Syrian children are refugees elsewhere in the Middle East.

The figures come in a UNICEF report released two days before the sixth anniversary of the popular uprising that escalated into civil war.

Children were among the first victims of the government's brutal crackdown. On March 15, 2011, residents in the southern city of Daraa marched to demand the release of teenage students arrested for writing anti-government slogans on their school's walls. They were tortured in detention.

The report warns that coping mechanisms and medical care are eroding quickly in Syria, driving children into child labor, early marriage and combat. Dozens are dying from preventable diseases.

A report released a week ago by the international charity Save the Children said Syrian youngsters are showing signs of "toxic stress" that can lead to lifelong health problems, struggles with addiction and mental disorders lasting into adulthood.

The use of child soldiers is on the rise in Syria, UNICEF said. At least 851 children were recruited by armed factions last year, more than twice compared to the year before.

Children across the country are at risk of severe injury while playing around landmines and cluster munitions. Demining operations in opposition-held areas have been severely hampered by inaccessibility to outside experts.

46 killed, dozens missing in Ethiopia garbage dump landslide

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP)—A mountain of trash gave way in a massive garbage dump on the outskirts of Ethiopia's capital, killing at least 46 people and leaving several dozen missing, residents said, as officials vowed to relocate those who called the landfill home.

Addis Ababa city spokeswoman Dagmawit Moges said most of the 46 dead were women and children, and more bodies were expected to be found in the coming hours.

It was not immediately clear what caused Saturday night's collapse at the Koshe Garbage Landfill, which buried several makeshift homes and concrete buildings. The landfill has been a dumping ground for the capital's garbage for more than 50 years.

About 150 people were there when the landslide occurred, resident Assefa Teklemahimanot told The Associated Press. Addis Ababa Mayor Diriba Kuma said 37 people had been rescued and were receiving medical treatment. Dagmawit said two had serious injuries.

Many people at the landfill had been scavenging items to make a living, but others live there because renting homes, largely built of mud and sticks, is relatively inexpensive.

An AP reporter saw four bodies taken away by ambulances after being pulled from the debris. Elderly women cried, and others stood anxiously waiting for news of loved ones. Six excavators dug through the ruins.

"My house was right inside there," said a shaken Tebeju Asres, pointing to where one of the excavators was digging in deep, black mud. "My mother and three of my sisters were there when the landslide happened. Now I don't know the fate of all of them."

The resumption of garbage dumping at the site in recent months likely caused the landslide, Assefa said. The dumping had stopped in recent years, but it resumed after farmers in a nearby restive region where a new garbage landfill complex was being built blocked dumping in their area.

Smaller collapses have occurred at Koshe—or "dirty" in the local Amharic language—in the past two years but only two or three people were killed, Assefa said.

"In the long run, we will conduct a resettling program to relocate people who live in and around the landfill," the Addis Ababa mayor said.

Around 500 waste-pickers are believed to work at the landfill every day, sorting through the debris from the capital's estimated 4 million residents. City officials say close to 300,000 tons of waste are collected each year from the capital, most of it dumped at the landfill.

Since 2010, city officials have warned that the landfill was running out of room and was being closed in by nearby housing and schools.

City officials in recent years have been trying to turn the garbage into a source of clean energy with a $120 million investment. The Koshe waste-to-energy facility, which has been under construction since 2013, is expected to generate 50 megawatts of electricity upon completion.

Ethiopia, which has one of Africa's fastest growing economies, is under a state of emergency imposed in October after several months of sometimes deadly protests demanding wider political freedoms.

Life & Style

SNL skewers first daughter Ivanka Trump

WASHINGTON (AP)—The biting humor of "Saturday Night Live" took aim at another Trump this week—first daughter Ivanka.

The long-standing comedy show skewered President Donald Trump's elder daughter with a faux perfume ad, starring actress Scarlett Johansson. The name of the perfume? Complicit.

As Johansson walks into an elegant party in a glittering evening dress, the narrator says: "A woman like her deserves a fragrance all her own. A scent made just for her. Because she's beautiful. She's powerful. She's complicit."

"She doesn't crave the spotlight, but we see her. Oh, how we see her," says the narrator as Johansson applies lipstick and sees Alec Baldwin playing Trump reflected back in the mirror.

The narrator continues: "A feminist, an advocate, a champion for women, but like how?"

And concludes: "Complicit: The fragrance for the woman who could stop all of this but won't."

It was the first time Johansson portrayed Ivanka Trump. Actress Margot Robbie depicted her in a sketch in the fall.

Ivanka Trump was a popular surrogate for her father on the campaign trail. She stepped away from executive roles at her self-named lifestyle brand and with the family business to move her young family to Washington, D.C., when Trump took office.

For now, just her husband, Jared Kushner, has an official position, but Ivanka Trump has been an active presence at White House meetings and has been advocating for several issues, including for new child care policies. The extent of her influence over her father behind the scenes has been the subject of intense speculation.

The White House and a representative for Ivanka Trump did not immediately respond to requests for comment on "Saturday Night Live."

AP's legendary 'Napalm Girl' photographer Nick Ut to retire

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It would seem all but impossible to sum up one of the most distinguished careers in photojournalism in only four words, but that's just what Nick Ut does when he says, "From hell to Hollywood."

And the Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer, who is retiring this month after 51 years with The Associated Press, has the pictures to prove it, the most famous being a stunning black-and-white image from the Vietnam War that's come to be known simply as "Napalm Girl."

It's the photo of a terrified child running naked down a country road, her body literally burning from the napalm bombs dropped on her village just moments before Ut captured the iconic image.

"That photograph illustrated dramatically what had become a regular occurrence in Vietnam over the years—napalm on distant villages, civilians killed and scared by the war, pictures we'd rarely had in the past," said Peter Arnett, a distinguished network news war correspondent and Pulitzer Prize winner himself. "This picture revealed the kind of details that were an integral part of what the war had been about, which made it so significant and important to be published."

Ut was only 21 when he took that photo on June 8, 1972, then set his camera aside to rush 9-year-old Kim Phuc to a hospital, where doctors saved her life. He would go on to take literally tens of thousands more over the next 44 years, including images of practically every A-list celebrity who walked a Hollywood red carpet or entered a courtroom on the wrong side of the law.

"Every star who has trouble, they will see me," jokes the friendly 65-year-old photographer who, although his thick, dark hair has grayed over the years, retains both a boyish charm and irrepressible enthusiasm for his work.

On a recent morning in a conference room of the AP's Los Angeles bureau, Ut clicks through a portfolio showing a few of his most famous images.

There's one of a sobbing Robert Blake, the actor's head on a courtroom table moments after he was acquitted of killing his wife. In another, Michael Jackson is dancing on an SUV outside a courtroom where he would be acquitted of child molestation. Perhaps the most ironic of all, of a tearful Paris Hilton headed to jail for driving violations, was taken on June 8, 2007, the 35th anniversary of the day he took the "Napalm Girl" picture.

Warren Beatty once called Ut aside at a Hollywood Walk of Fame ceremony to spend 30 minutes talking about the "Napalm Girl" photo. After learning he was the one who took it, actress Joan Collins opened a bottle of champagne for Ut during a shoot at her home. It was a much friendlier reaction, he says, than the one he got when he previously photographed her heading into a courtroom to settle an acrimonious divorce.

"That picture changed my life. It changed Kim's life," he says of the pair's chance meeting in a dusty Vietnamese village called Trang Bang. He'd just finished photographing four planes flying low to drop the napalm that would set Phuc's village ablaze when he saw a terrified group of men, women and children running for their lives from a pagoda.

After getting that perfectly framed photo, he set aside his camera, gave the badly burned girl water, poured more on her wounds, then loaded her and others into his AP van to take them to a hospital. When doctors refused to admit her, saying she was too badly burned to be saved, he angrily flashed his press pass. The next day, he told them, pictures of her would be displayed all over the world, along with an explanation of how the hospital refused to help.

"I cried when I saw her running," Ut once told an AP reporter. "If I don't help her—if something happened and she died—I think I'd kill myself after that."

Now a 53-year-old wife and mother of two who lives in Canada, Kim Phuc remains Ut's close friend.

But her photo, dramatic as it was, represented only a small slice of the horror Ut saw during those war years.

As he flips through photos of villages destroyed, dead bodies piled everywhere and parents grieving over dead children, Ut tells how he came to be a combat photographer.

The 11th of 12 children, he grew up idolizing one of his older brothers, Huynh Thanh My, an actor whose good looks seemed to have him destined for movie stardom until the Vietnam War got in the way. Huynh was hired by the AP and was on assignment in 1965 when he and a group of soldiers he was with were overrun by Viet Cong rebels who killed everyone.

At his brother's funeral, Ut approached the late Horst Faas, photo editor for AP's Saigon bureau, to ask for a job. But Faas, a two-time Pulitzer winner, turned him down cold. He didn't want the Huynh family losing another son.

After weeks of Ut's pestering, Faas finally relented, hiring him on Jan. 1, 1966, but giving the 15-year-old strict orders: Under no circumstances was he to carry his camera into a war zone.

So Ut spent the next couple of years working in the darkroom and shooting feature photos around Saigon until one January morning in 1968 when the war came to him.

"I remember Nick coming in later that morning very excited and saying, 'The Viet Cong are fighting near my house. I have pictures of Vietnamese troops attacking them, great pictures," Arnett, who worked for the AP then, recalled in a recent interview.

From that day forward, 17-year-old Huynh Cong Ut was a combat photographer.

Kong' outmuscles 'Logan' to become king of the box office

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It was a battle of the beasts at the box office this weekend, and King Kong emerged as the definitive victor over Wolverine.

AP
This image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows a scene from, "Kong: Skull Island."

According to studio estimates Sunday, "Kong: Skull Island" amassed $61 million in its first weekend in theaters, surpassing expectations and easily beating out "Logan," which is now in its second weekend.

Warner Bros. and Legendary's "Kong: Skull Island" stars Tom Hiddleston, Brie Larson and Samuel L. Jackson. It's the second in the planned "monster universe" following the latest "Godzilla," which grossed $529.1 million worldwide in 2014.

The film, which earned a B CinemaScore overall, was graded stronger by younger audiences, many of whom will have extra days off soon for spring break.

Costing a reported $185 million to produce, "Kong" still has work to be done, however, to reach profitability, and much of that will depend on international earnings. This weekend it topped international charts as well with $81.6 million from 66 territories.

"They had a solid weekend. But they're going to be looking for a half-billion worldwide to make it a certifiable hit," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box office tracker comScore.

Fox's "Logan" took second place, down around 58 percent from its first weekend with $37.9 million. The R-rated pic, which sees Hugh Jackman reprising his role as the X-Men character Wolverine, has earned $152.7 million in total.

In third place, "Get Out," the buzzy horror film directed by Jordan Peele, added $21.1 million, pushing its sum to $111 million in just three weeks.

Rounding out the top five were the faith-based movie "The Shack," with $10.1 million, and "The Lego Batman Movie" with $7.8 million.

1. **"Kong: Skull Island,"** $61 million ($81.6 million international).
2. **"Logan,"** $37.9 million ($70 million international).
3. **"Get Out,"** $21.1 million.
4. **"The Shack,"** $10.1 million.
5. **"The Lego Batman Movie,"** $7.8 million ($5.1 million international).
6. **"Before I Fall,"** $3.1 million ($265,000 international).
7. **"Hidden Figures,"** $2.8 million ($5.1 million international).
8. **"John Wick: Chapter Two,"** $2.7 million ($2.5 million international).
9. **"MET Opera: La Traviata,"** $1.8 million ($1.8 million international).
10. **"La La Land,"** $1.8 million ($6.8 million international).

Stewart and Assayas find a groove in the shadow of celebrity

NEW YORK (AP)—In the disheveled backroom of an East Village restaurant, Kristen Stewart is sarcastically motivating the French director Olivier Assayas for a photo shoot.

"You're in America now, dude," Stewart jokes. "We've got to sell the s--- out of this movie."

Stewart, a blockbuster veteran at 26, is well acquainted with the demands of movie promotion. But with Assayas, she has found a freedom from such concerns. She and the director have forged an unlikely but formidable bond that has resulted in two highly acclaimed movies, both made in Europe, far outside of Hollywood jurisdiction.

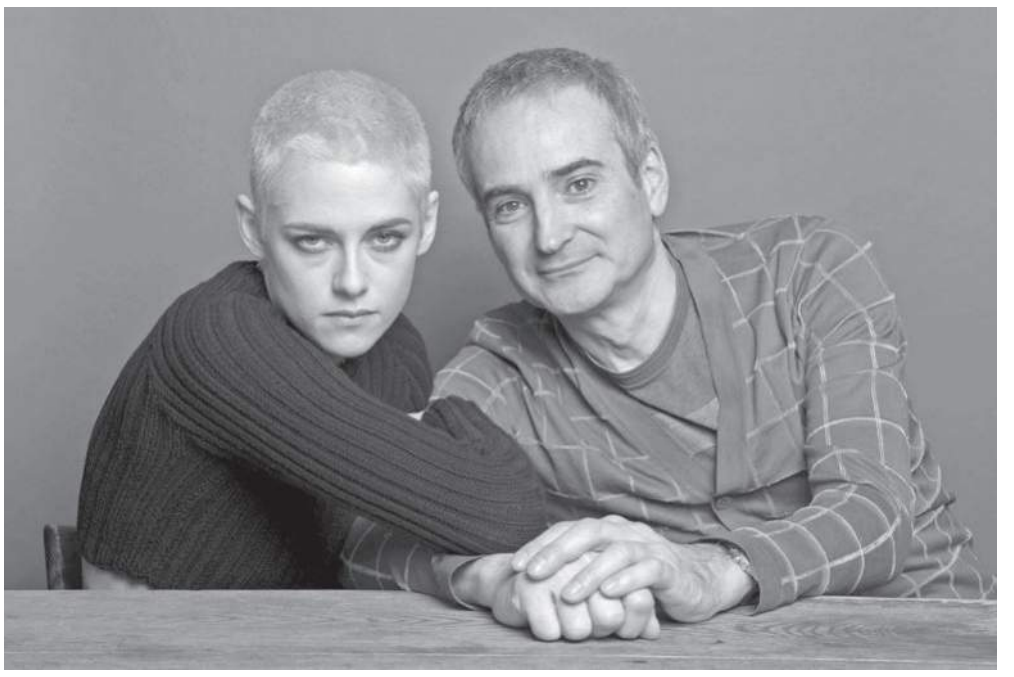
They're an odd pair: She, a rebel A-lister from Los Angeles who has become one of the movie's most exciting and uncompromising actors; he, a demure Parisian whose layered, cerebral films teeter between reality and fiction.

What makes them click? They chuckle.

"I'm not sure," says Assayas. Stewart nods. "That's the main question," she says. "I don't know. We like each other."

Their latest film, "Personal Shopper," is full of mysteries, too. It's a ghost story, set in a contemporary world of texting and Googling. In the film, which opened Friday, Stewart plays a twin whose brother has just died. Her day job is shopping in Paris for a stuck-up celebrity, but she's also a medium, and a series of strange encounters make her believe a spirit (her brother?) is contacting her.

"Personal Shopper" follows their previous "Clouds of Sils Maria," also a singularly enigmatic movie in which Stewart played support staff (an assistant to Juliette Binoche's theatre actress) to a more famous character. (The part earned Stewart a Cesar, the first American to win the French award.) But by stepping into characters out of the spotlight—and into films outside of Hollywood convention—Stewart has never been so much herself on screen.



AP

Kristen Stewart, left, and writer-director Olivier Assayas pose for a portrait to promote their film, "Personal Shopper," on Thursday, March 9, 2017, in New York.

"I could be making movies about Kristen being a movie star or whatever persona any actress has on social media," says Assayas. "But what interests me is the person. So I throw the burden of celebrity on someone else, so she can be free of it."

"Maybe for the next one I could play a famous actress," jokes Stewart. "Try to normalize that!"

There were plenty of moments while making "Personal Shopper" where Stewart's fame invaded. Shooting on the streets of Paris (Stewart drives a moped through the city in the film), they were surrounded by paparazzi. Assayas acknowledges for that and other reasons (a difficult crew, his underestimation of the complexity of a lengthy texting sequence) the movie had "a weird energy." ''We struggled for this film," he says.

But Stewart says she channeled the intrusions into her haunted character. "I thought I was being taken from, and it was good," she says. "It made me more sensitive. My nerves were very close to the surface."

In the two films, Stewart has relished the chance to slyly remark on the celebrity industrial complex.

"As an outsider, you're allowed to comment very honestly about things that are undeniably, objectively strange," says Stewart." But if you're the person who is at the center of that, then all of a sudden those comments become scathing and you're ungrateful and whatever. It was nice to be able to speak the truth and not be harpooned for it."

Yet the former "Twilight" actress, with freshly buzzed blonde hair, has deservedly made a reputation for herself as an unusually forthright and frank star. She has taken part after part, usually in smaller, indie productions ("Certain Women," ''Equals," ''Cafe Society"), with an insatiable urge to work, to keep exploring. Stewart also debuted a short film she directed at Sundance this year.

In a memorable "Saturday Night Live" monologue earlier this year, she reflected on when Donald Trump in 2012 repeatedly tweeted that her then-boyfriend Robert Pattinson should "dump" her. "It was inconceivable, actually," Stewart says. "At the time, I regarded him as like a reality-show star. I was like: Who is this guy?"

"To be honest, there are so many significant and very effecting things that he has said and says all the time," continues Stewart. "This was just a stranger, fascinating one because it's so piddly in terms of what matters. It was worth everyone knowing that because it's f------ weird."

She also, in a rebuke to Trump and an inspiration to others, announced, "And I'm like so gay, dude."

"I've really allowed myself to really freely and with no regard to the effect of others live my life," says Stewart. "There was just a time where I realized that the things you do and say when you have so many people looking at you, they do affect others. So I'm really proud of it. But at the same time, I hate that it's such a big deal. It's a fact of life right now but it's like, whatever. To me, it's not personally that big of a deal but I know that it can be to others."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Tyra Banks to host season 12 of 'America's Got Talent'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Tyra Banks is hosting the 12th season of "America's Got Talent." NBC said Sunday that the supermodel, Emmy-winner and creator of "America's Next Top Model" will be joining the competition series alongside returning judges Simon Cowell, Mel B, Heidi Klum and Howie Mandel. Banks will be taking over hosting duties from Nick Cannon, who left the show earlier this year after eight years in the post. Banks said she looks forward to "connecting with the dreamers" and will try to get a few to "smize" for the audience. Contestants in the popular summer series come out to show off a wide array of talents to compete for a $1 million prize. Episodes will be aired live this summer from the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles.

2 die in crush at massive Argentine rock concert

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)—A crush of people at a massive open-air rock concert left two people dead and a dozen more injured, Argentine officials said Sunday. Olavarria Mayor Ezequiel Galli said officials had been expecting 160,000 to 170,000 for the concert by Indio Solari, but far more showed up. Solari is wildly popular in Argentina and gives few concerts. "The situation got out of hand. That many people really weren't expected," Galli told a news conference. He said two people were confirmed dead and 12 others were hospitalized. Solari paused the show several times, and at one point called for help for people knocked to the ground. The crowd overwhelmed transportation services in Olavarria, a city of about 120,000 people some 300 kilometers (180 miles) southwest of Buenos Aires. Many concert-goers found themselves stranded Sunday morning for lack of transportation. Galli said extra buses were being brought in from the army and other agencies.

Daughter's efforts are never good enough for her family

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 15-year-old girl, and I'm struggling with abuse. I'm mentally and physically abused by my family constantly, yet they make me out to be the abusive one. I could do amazing on a test, and they yell at me for something that happened on the last one. They're always pushing me so hard to do better that it's making me do worse.

How can I make my family see that I'm not them, and I can do good if they just give me the chance to learn from my mistakes?

STRUGGLING IN WISCONSIN

DEAR STRUGGLING: Parents always want their children to perform to their level of capacity. Because you say you are being abused physically and emotionally for your inability to live up to your family's expectations, discuss what's going on with a counselor at your school. It's possible there needs to be an intervention by someone they will listen to. Please don't wait to do it.

DEAR ABBY: My husband of three years has visits with his son every Tuesday and Thursday evening. My mother-in-law picks up her grandson, takes him to her home and makes dinner for the three of them. I work 10-hour days Monday through Friday and am not able to attend these dinners.

My question is, isn't it proper etiquette that my mother-in-law should send a plate of food home for me with my husband? She never has, and I think this is rude and inconsiderate of her. What is your opinion?

HUNGRY IN EL PASO

DEAR HUNGRY: Although brief, your letter speaks volumes about your relationship with your mother-in-law, which appears could be better. No rule of etiquette dictates that she is obligated to send a plate of her food home with her son for you. Perhaps if your relationship with her was warmer, or your husband was thoughtful enough to suggest it, she would. However, since you asked, my opinion is that rather than complain, you should pick up some take-out on your way home from work.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 22-year-old college student on the verge of graduating this May. I've been dating my boyfriend for more than five years, and I am extremely close with his family, especially his sister "Claudia" and her three children (ages 6, 3 and 6 months).

My parents are throwing me a graduation party at their home, and they don't want any guests under the age of 10. How do I tell Claudia—a dear friend—that her children won't be invited without upsetting her? (I have small cousins who won't be attending either.)

It truly is nothing personal, but I know she will probably take it personally. I don't want to cause drama, but I do want to honor my parents' wishes that no small children be present. How do I tell her? Help!

SOON-TO-BE GRADUATE

DEAR SOON-TO-BE GRADUATE: You are not hosting the party; your parents are. As the hosts, it is their privilege to decide whom to invite—or not. When Claudia is invited, your parents should explain that they prefer children under the age of 10 not be present, and soften it if necessary by explaining there are small nieces and nephews who will not be attending as well.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

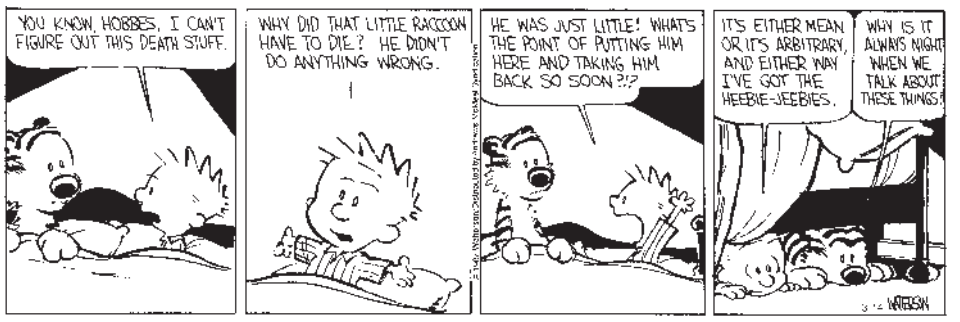
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

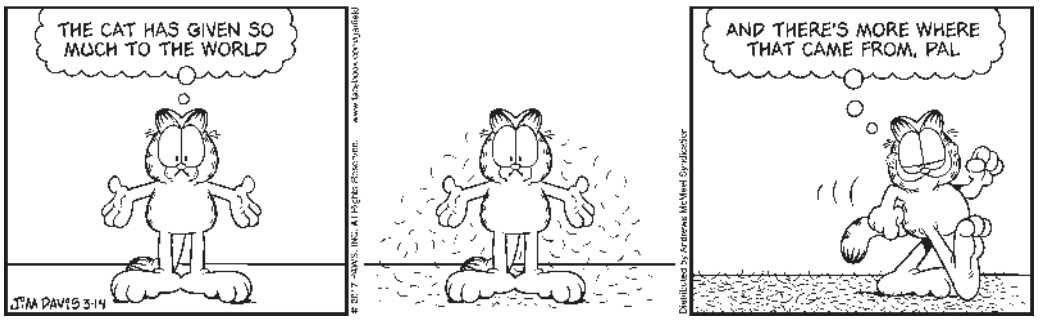
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


YOU KNOW, HOBBES, I CAN'T FIGURE OUT THIS DEATH STUFF.
WHY DID THAT LITTLE RACCOON HAVE TO DIE? HE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG.
HE WAS JUST LITTLE! WHAT'S THE POINT OF PUTTING HIM HERE AND TAKING HIM BACK SO SOON?!?
IT'S EITHER MEAN OR IT'S ARBITRARY, AND EITHER WAY I'VE GOT THE HEEBIE-JEEBIES.
WHY IS IT ALWAYS NIGHT WHEN WE TALK ABOUT THESE THINGS?

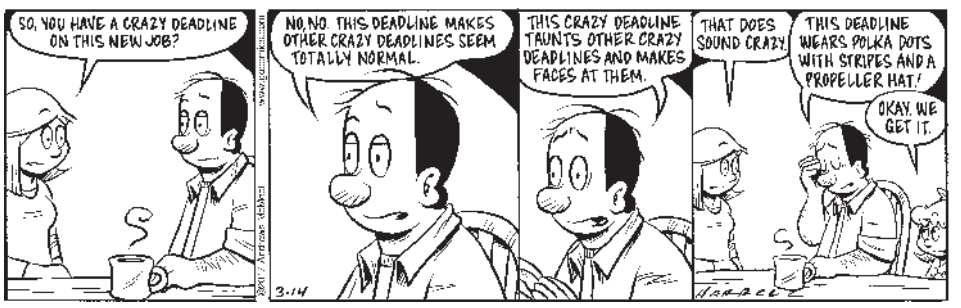
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


SO, YOU HAVE A CRAZY DEADLINE ON THIS NEW JOB?
NO, NO. THIS DEADLINE MAKES OTHER CRAZY DEADLINES SEEM TOTALLY NORMAL.
THIS CRAZY DEADLINE TAUNTS OTHER CRAZY DEADLINES AND MAKES FACES AT THEM.
THAT DOES SOUND CRAZY.
THIS DEADLINE WEARS POLKA DOTS WITH STRIPES AND A PROPELLER HAT.
OKAY. WE GET IT.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

COULD YOU GET OUT OF THE CAR, WALK TEN PACES WITH YOUR HANDS ON YOUR HIPS, TURN AROUND AND WALK BACK?
I HAVEN'T BEEN DRINKING, SO I DON'T NEED A SOBRIETY TEST!
NO, I'M LOOKING FOR PEOPLE TO GO LINE DANCING WITH THIS WEEKEND.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 "Funny!"
5 Karaoke prop, for short
8 Bar bills
12 Skater's leap
13 Hosp. section
14 "Hi, sailor!"
15 Fragrances
17 April forecast
18 Hwy.
19 Fall
21 Sleep problem
24 O'Hara estate
25 Feeder filler
26 Play by Shakespeare
30 In the style of
31 Actions
32 Exist
33 Long-haired cats
35 Firecracker part
36 Grade-school basics
37 Church leader
38 From Copenhagen
41 — -ray Disc
42 Black, in verse
43 Tapered cigar
48 Fast time?
49 Nest egg acronym
50 Tide type
51 Golf props
52 Conclusion
53 Horn sound

DOWN

1 Chance, poetically
2 Chopper
3 That girl
4 "Batman" butler
5 Charades player
6 "Rocks"
7 Pie fillings
8 Runway surface
9 Melville captain
10 Seethe
11 "Auld Lang —"
16 Actress Hagen
20 "Topaz" author
21 Now, on a memo
22 Soccer legend
23 Close
24 Adolescents
26 Fruit-filled dessert
27 Praise
28 Celtic tongue
29 Crystal gazer
31 Firsties
34 New Orleans team
35 Well-versed in a language
37 Sprite
38 Shoulder muscle, for short
39 Busy as —
40 Zilch
41 Thin nail
44 Directional ending
45 Corp. boss
46 Eastern "way"
47 Select, with "for"

Solution time: 22 mins.

W	A	G		A	B	H	O	R		C	P	A
A	L	P		T	R	I	G	E		O	I	L
N	E	A	P	T	I	D	E	S		I	P	O
			R	E	D		S	O	N	N	E	T
S	C	L	O	N	G		E	L	E	C		
U	N	I		D	E	B		E	M	I	L	E
R	C	M	A		S	A	P		O	D	O	R
F	R	O	G	S		T	U	T		C	G	O
		R	U	E	S		M	E	S	S	E	S
A	V	I	A	T	E		P	A	C			
D	I	D		T	O	O	K	S	I	D	E	S
E	N	E		L	U	R	I	E		A	M	A
S	C	S		E	L	A	N	D		Y	U	M

Yesterday's answer 3-14

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12				■	13			■	14			
15				16				■	17			
■	■	■	18			■	19	20				
21	22	23			■	24				■	■	■
25				■	26					27	28	29
30			■	31					■	32		
33			34					■	35			
■	■	■	36				■	37				
38	39	40				■	41			■	■	■
42				■	43	44				45	46	47
48				■	49			■	50			
51				■	52			■	53			

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Megan Follows, 49; Billy Crystal, 69; Quincy Jones, 84; Michael Caine, 84.

Happy Birthday: Observe, listen and make decisions based on logic, facts and with an open heart and an open mind. Taking the time to review what has transpired before you react or respond will enable you to move forward with a clear conscience. Partnerships will be a source of encouragement and support to help you turn your dreams into a reality. Your numbers are 4, 14, 22, 25, 31, 38, 42.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19)*: Open your heart to someone you love and share your thoughts, ideas and plans for the future. Partnerships are built through communication and having a greater understanding of what is best for everyone involved. Self-improvements will turn out well. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20)*: Think matters through. Take your time to assess what's going on around you. Ask questions and remain calm regardless of the response you get. Control whatever situation you face by using facts and expressing your willingness to compromise. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20)*: Get along with your fellow co-workers. Disputes will only weaken the process of getting ahead. Problems while traveling will be costly if you don't put cautionary measures in place. You'll have to think and act with precision and courage.✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22)*: Think twice before you jump into a debate with someone. Get your facts straight and have suggestions and solutions ready to share when the time is appropriate. Choose intelligence over aggression and you will overcome negativity and criticism. ✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22)*: Make the most of the environments you live and work in. Positive changes will foster good results. Refuse to let someone inhibit your way of thinking. Being true to yourself and the way you do your job will bring satisfaction. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)*: You'll be limited if you haven't been paying enough attention to your bills, banking charges or personal possessions and affairs. Don't risk making a mistake due to someone else's assessment of your situation. Take control and avoid being disappointed. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)*: It will be too easy to get the wrong impression, blow situations out of proportion or end up in a precarious position if you are too quick to act. Choose to work alone and to focus on productivity. Personal growth is encouraged. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)*: Impulsiveness can be damaging. Slow down and consider where your information is coming from. Trust in yourself and you will discover a way to avoid facing unwanted trouble with the powers that be. Express caution when dealing with institutions. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)*: Positive changes to your residence, love life or your overall position should be implemented. Take responsibility for your happiness and do what works best for you. You'll be respected for your honesty, not for evasiveness. ✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)*: Stick to what's doable. Be realistic when taking on physical challenges. Reconsider your approach when dealing with emotional matters. Offering constructive suggestions is preferable to making a big fuss. Be cautious while traveling.✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)*: An opportunity is heading in your direction. Winnings, settlements and rewards look promising. Personal adjustments will prove to be fruitful and could give you the boost you need to improve your life and your future. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20)*: Take time to assess matters. It's important to have a plan before you take action, making changes that will have long-term effects. Treat personal and professional partnerships with respect and the hopes of achieving equality. 3 stars

Birthday Baby: You are outgoing, playful and quick to react. You are sensitive and confident.

Eugenia's websites -- eugenialast.com for Ask Eugenia, daily timing and compatibility services, and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

						5		
5			7	3	1			
		3			2	7		
	1	5	8		3		2	
	7						4	
	2		5		9	3	7	
		7	3			6		
			1	8	7			4
	9							

Difficulty Level ★★ 3/14

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	9	2	1	4	3	7	5	6
5	6	1	9	7	2	3	8	4
7	4	3	8	5	6	9	2	1
3	8	7	4	2	5	6	1	9
4	5	6	3	9	1	2	7	8
1	2	9	7	6	8	4	3	5
6	1	4	5	3	7	8	9	2
2	3	8	6	1	9	5	4	7
9	7	5	2	8	4	1	6	3

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

HAVE YOU EATEN DURIAN? Solution: 6 letters

K	A	Y	O	P	M	E	T	H	O	R	N	S	E	E
I	L	T	I	U	R	F	I	B	E	R	O	L	K	C
N	M	M	A	E	R	C	E	C	I	U	A	A	I	U
G	O	L	Y	R	T	S	A	P	P	T	C	T	P	A
R	N	E	A	K	E	F	E	Y	E	N	O	H	S	S
E	D	M	M	D	L	N	R	P	O	L	L	E	N	O
E	I	P	B	C	E	I	Y	O	I	R	U	D	O	N
N	T	U	A	S	N	C	M	R	Z	D	E	R	I	I
S	R	K	S	D	H	J	I	T	R	E	O	A	T	C
L	E	A	S	I	A	K	A	R	U	U	N	T	C	C
S	E	H	P	V	S	R	M	C	N	N	C	S	E	U
D	G	S	A	U	A	L	O	D	O	D	O	U	F	P
E	R	I	H	G	L	O	R	Y	D	N	A	C	N	P
E	A	F	U	E	K	P	A	G	N	O	L	B	O	A
S	L	S	W	E	E	T	A	V	I	T	L	U	C	C

©2011 Andrews McMeel www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 3/14

Almond, Aroma, Asia, Cakes, Candy, Cappuccino, Chips, Coconut Milk, Confection, Cook, Cultivate, Curry, Custard, Dodol, Durio, Fiber, Fish, Frozen, Fruit, Greens, Honey, Husk, Ice Cream, Java, King, Large, Lempuk, Mooncake, Oblong, Pastry, Petal, Pollen, Pulp, Red, Rice, Rind, Ripeness, Round, Sauce, Seeds, Soup, Spike, Sugar, Sweet, Taro, Tempoyak, Thorns, Tree, Yam

Yesterday's Answer: Affluent

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46 or 47**, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

1 Commercial Cleaner / Office Clerk: $6.55-$7.05/hr. At least 2 years experience required. Email resume to bluedragon@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Operation Manager, 1 Marketing Manager, $36,000 per year. Please mail resume to Blue Lagoon Realty Inc. P.O. Box 505478, Saipan MP 96950 or call 670-288-6903/04 look for Robert

1 Supervisor: $1,200-$1,300/mo. College degree and at least 3 years' experience as a supervisor in a grocery store required.
1 Butcher: $6.55-$7.05/hr. High school diploma and at least 3 years' experience required. Email resume to dolim@hanmisaipan.com.

2 Maintenance & Repair Worker, minimum wage. Mail resume to Elliot System, LLC at P.O. Box 5568 Saipan, MP 96950.

1 Pastor: $1,200-$1,500/mo. 3 years experience and Korean language speaking fluency required. Email resume to goodnews@hanmisaipan.com.

1 General Manager: $1,200-1,760/mo. Bachelor's degree & 4 yrs experience required. Must report to overseas owner in Korean. Email resume to jnd@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Restaurant Manager (Korean cuisine): $6.55-$7.05/hr. At least 2 years' managerial experience in a restaurant specializing in Korean cuisine required.
1 Cook (Korean cuisine): $6.55-$7.05/hr. At least 2 years' professional cooking experience in Korean cuisine required. Email resume to kl@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Accountant, 2 Maids & Housekeeping Cleaner, 1 Plumber, 2 General Maintenance & Repair Worker, 1 Carpenter, minimum salary. Please mail resume to Life Care Center International Inc. P.O. Box 505478, Saipan MP 96950 or call 670-288-6903/04 look for Robert

1 Comp.Sys.Mngr.; 1 Comp.Sys. Admin; 1 Comp. Specialist. Must be graduate of any computer related course.W/ 3-5 yrs exp.US Qualified applicant send resume at marianasoutsource@gmail.com

1 Maintenance and Repair Worker, General: $6.55-$7.05/hr. At least 2 years experience required. Email resume to mc@hanmisaipan.com.

2 Maintenance & Repair Workers, 2 Computer Support Specialist, minimum salary. Mail resume to MTO Maintenance (Saipan), Inc. at P.O. Box 504053, Saipan MP 96950.

1 General Manager (Accounting): $1,200-1,800/mo. 5 years of managerial experience required. Must have majored in accounting. 10 years of accounting experience required. Public accounting experience required. Korean writing and speaking fluency required.
1 Accountant: $1,200-$1,800/mo. Bachelor's degree in accounting and least 2 years experience required. Public accounting experience required. Email resume to hps@hanmisaipan.com.

(4) Fishermen, (2) Sales Representatives. Minimum salary. Send resume to SMJ Corporation. P.O. Box 503944 Saipan, MP 96950.

1 Building and ground maintenance repair. Extensive experience and references required. Contact Tapochao Estates at 483-9351.

1 Store Manager: $1,200-$1,300/mo. At least 2 years of experience as a clothing store manager is required. Korean speaking and writing fluency is required. Email resume to treasure@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Operations Manager: $1,200-$1,300/mo. Bachelor's degree & 2 years management experience required. Email resume to vienna@hanmisaipan.com.

3 Cook (Korean cuisine): $6.55-$7.05/hr. At least 2 years of professional cooking experience in Korean cuisine required.
2 Waiter/Waitress: $6.55-$7.05/hr. At least 1 year's experience required. Email resume to wing@hanmisaipan.com.

1 Piano teacher: $1,200-$1,800/mo. Bachelor's degree in music education and at least five years of experience required. Email resume to yonsei@hanmisaipan.com.

3 Cook (Korean cuisine): $6.55-$7.05/hr. At least 2 years of professional cooking experience in Korean cuisine required.
4 Waiter/Waitress: $6.55-$7.05/hr. At least 1 year's experience required. Email resume to yul@hanmisaipan.com.

2 Automotive Mechanic (Radiator): $6.55-$7.05/hr. At least five years of experience, and specialty in radiator repair required. Email resume to grace@hanmisaipan.com.

2 Maintenance & Repair Workers, 2 Computer Support Specialist, minimum salary. Mail resume to MTO Maintenance (Saipan), Inc. at P.O. Box 504053, Saipan MP 96950.

1 MAINTENANCE REPAIRER
Sal $6.55/Hr 4Yrs Exp
JJ Brother Corp jjbrothercorp@gmail.com

POI Aviation Invites qualified US workers to apply for the following positions:

Airport Service Supervisor (2)
Requires: Associate's Degree in related field or comparable work experience preferred. One to two years equivalent work experience. Provides assistance and customer service to passengers by performing various customer service duties in the airport such as check-in, reservations, baggage and processing. Knowledgeable in FAA, ICAO, IATA, TSA, local airport and airline regulations. Candidates must be able to obtain an Airport Badge.

Interested applicants may send their applications to recruitment@poiaviation.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than March 22, 2017. Applications for employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the POI Aviation Building on International Terminal LP, Saipan International Airport. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

POI Aviation is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

SeaTouch LLC

invites qualified U.S. worker candidates to apply for the following position:

OPERATIONS MANAGER (1)

Graduate of a 4-year degree course and with a minimum of 6 years of professional, progressive management experience and at least 4 years of general management experience in business operations. Must have experience in business operation reporting, contract negotiation with suppliers and service contractors including identifying new business opportunities. Must have a solid track record in accomplishing business objectives. Must be able and willing to work evenings, holidays, and weekends.

To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than 5:00 PM on March 18, 2017. Applications for Employment are available at the Front Office of Century Tours Inc. located on the Ground Floor of Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe Village. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

SeaTouch LLC is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following vacant position:

[(1) Supervisor, Carpentry
Qualification: 2 years work experience in this field in a supervisory level is required and preferably from a full service hotel or large building complex. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including weekends and holidays. Must be able to lift and carry heavy objects up to 35 pounds.

(1) Wait Staff
Qualification: High school graduate or equivalent. At least 6 months serving experience required or 6 months current hosting experience. Restaurant and beverage experience preferred. Proven knowledge of Micros or equivalent computer software and cash check, credit card handling procedures required. Must be able to speak Mandarin Chinese. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early morning hours, evenings and/or weekends.

Application forms may be obtained and submitted to our Security Office located on the South Wing of Fiesta Resort & Spa. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Monday, March 20, 2017.

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Century Hotel

(3) General Maintenance Worker
Qualification: Minimum of 2 years work experience as a handyman preferable in a hotel or in a similar large building or complex with central plant. Willingness to work outside (if necessary) in inclement weather. Must be able to carry and lift heavy objects. Possession of a valid driver's license is essential. Perform work involving skills of two or more maintenance craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of an establishment in repair. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

(1) Housekeeping Cleaner (Part-Time)
Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent. Minimum 6 months work experience preferable in a hotel. Must be able to speak and write in English. Ability to speak basic foreign language is a plus. Good customer service skills are essential. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Applications may be obtained and submitted at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan's security office located at the south wing, ground floor. Dead-line for submission of application is March 20, 2017.

Century Hotel is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Century Tours, Inc.

invites qualified U.S. worker candidates to apply for the following positions:

Customer Service Supervisor, Operations (1)
College or Associate's degree in Management, Travel and Tour, or any related field. At least three (3) years of progressive management experience in tour and travel operations is required. Fluent in both written and oral communication in the English and Chinese languages. Must be able and willing to work evenings, holidays, and weekends.

Sales Associate (1)
High School Diploma or a GED with prior work experience in luxury retail sales. Must be able to lift at least 15 pound items and carry it for at least 100 yards with or without using a trolley. Preferably fluent in both written and oral communication in the English, Korean, Japanese or Chinese (Mandarin) languages. Must be able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Familiarity with the POS System is preferred.

Interested applicants may send their applications to ceti_recruitment@tanholdings.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than 5:00 PM on March 18, 2017. Applications for Employment are available at the Front Office of Century Tours Inc. located on the Ground Floor of Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe Village. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Century Tours, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

UNIVERSAL DEVELOPMENT INC.

Is looking for

- (1) Operations Manager
- (10) Carpenters
- (10) Masons
- (2) Electrician
- (4) Seamstress

Interested applicants may e-mail remypamintuan@gmail.com for more information.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

WHATZIT Solution:
Half measures

United Brothers Inc.

is looking for the following:

- Carpenter (1)
- Auto Body Repairer (2)
- Machinist (2)
- Maintenance Repairer (2)
- Auto Body Painter (2)

Minimum of 5 years experience.
Call 670-323-1328 for inquiries

Li'l Hands School of Music

is looking for a Music Teacher.
Must be Graduate in Music course and specialize in Piano.
Email: littlehandsmusic@yahoo.com

CHONG'S CORPORATION

Job Vacancy Announcement

Five (5) TECHNICIANS-AIR CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION
- Install, service and repair of Central Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration and Ventilation Systems
- Repair and service of Chilled Water Air-Conditioning System
- Perform repair and trouble analysis of VAV and VVT Control Systems
- Perform Computer based Control System

Other requirements:
- Minimum 5-year work experience required
- EPA Section 608 (Certification required)
- Maintenance Technician & Electrical Safety Course in accordance with 29CFR 1910 Standard (Preferable)
- Must possess good communication skill

One (1) HEAD TECHNICIAN-AIR CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION
- Read and interpret blueprints, technical drawings, schematics and computer-generated reports
- Establish and coordinate maintenance and safety procedures, service schedule and supply of materials required to maintain equipment
- Oversee installation, operation, maintenance and repair to ensure equipment are functioning according to specifications
- Install, service and repair of Central Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration and Ventilation Systems
- Repair and service of Chilled Water Air-Conditioning System
- Perform repair and trouble analysis of VAV and VVT Control Systems
- Perform Computer based Control System

Other requirements:
- Minimum 5-year work experience required
- 4-year Bachelor of Science degree from reputable College or University
- EPA Section 608 (Certification required)
- Must possess good communication skill

Two (2) SHEET METAL WORKERS
- Fabricate and install sheet metal & fiberglass products & equipment such as ducts, control boxes, drain pipes & furnace casings
- Set-up and operate fabricating equipment and machines, soldering and welding equipment
- Must be knowledgeable in interpreting plans and specifications
- Preferably knowledgeable in duct size calculation
- Minimum 5-year work experience required
- Must possess good communication skill

One (1) HVAC/R SALES REPRESENTATIVE
- Knowledgeable of HVAC-R Equipment and Parts sale
- Knowledgeable of product selection, listing of order and inventory
- Must be proficient on Computer Software such as Peachtree Accounting System, MS Excel and MS Word
- Minimum 5-year work experience required

E-mail resume to chongs@pticom.com

CLASSIFIEDS POLICIES

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™
Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.
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Find today's solution in classified section

Looking for a way to tell everyone about your business?
You're looking at it! Saipan Tribune 235-6397

Wireless Ridge Landscaping

is seeking for U.S. qualified workers for the following positions:

(3) GROUND MAINTENANCE

Perform residential and commercial landscaping work including design conceptualization and layout, preparation of plant materials, soil preparation, planting and maintenance. Also performs grounds keeping duties and other related duties as assigned. Minimum qualifications: 3-12 months of related work experience, with a high school or GED diploma.

All positions close 5:00pm on Monday, March 27, 2017.

Applications are available at the Marianas Medical Center. Applications should include a resume. It should also include a valid Police Clearance of no more than 6 months old. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Testing may be required for some positions. Wireless Ridge Landscaping is an equal opportunity employer.

Century Tours, Inc.

invites qualified U.S. worker candidates to apply for the following positions:

Tour Guide (1)

High School Diploma or GED with a minimum of six (6) months to one (1) year experience in travel or tour operation, sales or service related field. Able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Able to drive tourists safely through various tour routes. Fluent in both written and oral communication in the English and Chinese languages.

Interested applicants may send their resumes to ceti_recruitment@tanholdings.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than 5:00PM on March 20, 2017. Applications for Employment are available at the Front Office of Century Tours Inc. located on the Ground Floor of Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe Village. Applicants must be able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Century Tours, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

share the power of a wish
MAKE-A-WISH
Visit us at: Make-A-Wish Guam
590 South Marine Corps Drive. ITC Bldg, Suite 109
Tamuning, GU 9691303507
Tel: (670) 483-9474 • Email: info@guam.wish.org
www.guam.wish.org
Saipan Tribune

Mariana International Co. Ltd
PMB 252 Box 10002 Saipan MP 96950
Tel. 9892288
Email: cls6709892288@qq.com
2 Tour Guide/Agent
Us Workers
Chinese Speaking Preferred

SALE/LEASE
2 Houses on a 2,250 sqm lot located in As Perdido area
One 3 bedroom and One 1 bedroom
Fully concrete
Call 234-1498

ICTHUS FRESH MART
P.O. BOX 502075 CK, SAIPAN, MP 96950
Is looking for:
1 Fisherman
If interested, please call 788-2250

HONG ELECTRIC ENTERPRISES, INC.

(1) COMPUTER PROGRAMMER
Salary $7.05/Hr 4Yrs Exp
(1) GENERAL MANAGER
Salary depends on Qualifications

Send resume to: hongeei@pticom.com

Kanoa Resort
Saipan

is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Cook (5)
Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent with three (3) years work experience preferably in a hotel. Basic culinary skills and good hygiene knowledge is essential. Excellent stamina, ability to stand for long periods and can lift and carry up to 35 pounds without any assistance. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Steward (9)
Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent. Over 6 months progressive experience in stewarding capacities. Able to perform assigned duties with great attention to detail, pace, correctness and good manners. Ability to prioritize and arrange work assignment is essential. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Housekeeping Cleaner (4)
Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent. One (1) year work experience preferably in a hotel preferred but willing to train the right candidate. Must be able to lift and carry up to 35 pounds without any assistance. Must have attention to detail working carefully within the minimum time is essential. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Public Area Attendant (1)
Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent. One (1) year work experience preferably in a hotel preferred but willing to train the right candidate. Keep building in clean and orderly condition. Perform heavy cleaning duties, such as cleaning floors, shampooing rugs, washing walls and glass, and removing rubbish. Must be able to lift and carry up to 35 pounds without any assistance. Must have attention to detail working carefully within the minimum time is essential. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Landscaper (1)
Qualifications: Minimum of two (2) to three (3) years previous work experience. Cultivates and cares for ornamental plants and installs floral displays indoor or outdoor settings through performance of any combination of following duties as directed by supervisory personnel. Able to work a variable schedule on occasion including weekends.

General Maintenance Worker (1)
Qualifications: Minimum of two (2) years work experience as a Handyman preferably in a hotel or in a similar large building or complex with central plant. Willingness to work outside (if necessary) in inclement weather. Must be able to carry and lift heavy objects. Possession of a valid driver's license is essential. Perform work involving skills of two or more maintenance craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of an establishment in repair. Must be able to work a variable schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Interested applicants may send their applications to hr@kanoaresort.com. Application forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our resort. To be considered, applicants must be submitted not later than March 21, 2017. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

POI Aviation

invites qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following position:

Project Manager (1)
Requires: Bachelor's Degree in a related subject. At least 2 years of project (including construction) planning, management, and evaluation experience. Experienced in project supervision and management. Proficient in the use of computers for Word processing, simple accounting, Data base management, Spreadsheets, E-mail, and Internet. Objective: To plan, budget, oversee and document all aspects of the specific project assigned. Work closely with upper management to ensure that the scope and direction of each project is on schedule.

Senior Account Manager (2)
Bachelor's Degree Preferred. At least 5 years' experience of relevant job experience in the airline ground handling service industry. Experienced in project supervision and management. Fluency in a specific foreign language (Chinese/Korean) is required. Excellent written and oral communication skills. Computer literate with good typing skills. Excellent interpersonal skills. Ability to provide clear directions and set expectations. Ability to work with confidential and sensitive corporate, client and employee information and must conduct himself/herself accordingly. Willing to adapt to changes necessary for the effective functioning of the organization's objectives. Must be able to obtain an Airport badge.

Junior Account Manager (2)
Bachelor's Degree Preferred. At least 5 years' experience of relevant job experience in the airline ground handling service industry. Experienced in project supervision and management. Fluency in a specific foreign language (Chinese/Korean) is required. Excellent written and oral communication skills. Computer literate with good typing skills. Excellent interpersonal skills. Ability to provide clear directions and set expectations. Ability to work with confidential and sensitive corporate, client and employee information and must conduct himself/herself accordingly. Willing to adapt to changes necessary for the effective functioning of the organization's objectives. Must be able to obtain an Airport badge.

Administrative Assistant (1)
Coordinates and directs office services, such as records and budget preparation, personnel, and housekeeping, to aid executives. Prepares records and reports, such as recommendations for solutions of administrative problems and annual reports. Files and retrieves corporation documents, records, and reports. Analyzes operating practices and procedures to create new or to revise existing methods. Interprets administrative and operating policies & procedures for employees. Studies management methods to improve workflow, simplify reporting procedures, or implement cost reductions. Plans conferences. Reads & answers correspondence. Knowledge of principles and processes involved in business and organizational planning, coordination, and execution, resource allocation, manpower modeling, & leadership techniques.

Required Associates Degree, with at least 3 years experience of administrative and clerical procedures and systems such as managing files and records and word processing. Proficient in typing, and good at written and oral communication. Proficient in MS Office including Works, Excel and Outlook. Demonstrate good customer service & interpersonal skills at work and related duties. Must be able to work on weekends, holidays and weeknights.

Vice President for Sales and Marketing for Korean Market (1)
College graduate with 4-year degree and a minimum of 10 years of professional passenger and cargo sales, marketing experience in airline operations. Must be proficient in the Korean and English languages. Extensive knowledge of airline operations and a track record of accomplishing business objectives.

Interested applicants may send their applications to recruitment@poiaviation.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than March 21, 2017. Applications for employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the POI Aviation Building on International Terminal LP, Saipan International Airport. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

POI Aviation is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY, INC.

Registered Nurses: (03)
- Must pass NCLEX-RN with current CNMI RN License
- Attended a hemodialysis training program
- Must hold a Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- One to two years hemodialysis experience or related field
- English language skills-proficient in verbal, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- In-service training with Baxter Phoenix machine
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system

Hemodialysis Technicians: (4)
- Certificate from Junior College/Technician School in healthcare related field
- Attended a hemodialysis training program
- Three years hemodialysis experienced-preferred
- English language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- Flexible with time schedule

Water Treatment Technicians: (02)
- Must be able to perform task which may at first glance not appear difficult but required a high degree of knowledge and experience to properly operate and maintain system
- Operational knowledge of mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems
- Knowledge of the theory fluid dynamics
- Understand the mathematical relationships and common formulas of basic water treatment and distribution systems
- Know the specific operations of the water treatment distribution systems unique to a dialysis unit
- Be familiar with infection control of hemodialysis facilities, safety & life safety policies
- Pass the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency text for certified water treatment and distribution operators level II
- Understand the plumbing code and plumbing techniques
- Be able to demonstrate safe working techniques, proper plumbing techniques when working with pressure vessels
- Be able to demonstrate proper plumbing techniques especially when working with pvc
- To accept and perform all other duties as may be assigned

Building Maintenance and Repair: (03)
- Performs a variety of preventive maintenance and repair tasks on the facilities equipment, including some of the more complex repair tasks
- Performs preventive maintenance and makes routine repairs to electrical, plumbing and security systems
- Performs rough and finish carpentry work and takes the lead on projects such as building and paneling walls and petitions
- Installs solar panels with experience in the maintenance of pv models
- Maintains and repairs various equipment
- High school graduate or equivalent

Commercial Cleaners: (02)
- Operates various mechanized cleaning equipment, such as vacuums, buffers, etc.
- Maintain facility in a sanitary and infection-free condition through washing, cleaning and replacement of equipment and furnishings
- Requires working in damp, dusty and dirty areas. Must clean up human waste and other body fluids, as required
- Responsible for disposal of trash, waste and other disposable materials
- Must handle various cleaning solvents and chemicals that is required by Medicare
- Damp dust furniture, light fixtures, windows, etc.
- Empty trash containers daily
- Clean and mop bathrooms daily. Mop all corridor floors, lobby and others floors daily
- Report any needed repairs immediately
- Check entire area for spills, water, etc., periodically, especially in patients' areas and lobby
- Use safety precautions in all housekeeping and post occupancy
- Is required to maintain and clean in an orderly manner at the business office, Dr.'s office, accounting office, dietician and clinic manager's office
- Must be able to work flexible hours
- Must have own transportation

Interested applicant must submit resume or pick up application at St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc. in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application will be on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. For more information, please call 234-2901 ext. 128.

Northern Marianas College

P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6858/6855 • Fax: (670) 235-3696
Website: http://www.marianas.edu

Re-Announcement No. 17-013
POSITION TITLE: Bookstore Manager
Department: NMC Bookstore
Pay Level & Step: 30/01 – 30/02
Annual Salary: $39,256.56 – $40,360.43
Location: As Terlaje Campus, Saipan
Opening Date: 03/10/2017
Closing Date: March 20, 2017 or Until Filled

Applications must be submitted by 4:40 pm on the closing date. If there are no qualified applicants or the set of qualified applicants is deemed an insufficient pool, the closing date will be extended for two-week periods for further submission and review of applications until the search is closed. Deadlines that fall on a non-business day will be extended to the next business day. All salaries are subject to availability of funds. The College is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

WORLD INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(3) BUILDING MAINTENANCE;
(10) MASON/CARPENTER
Salary: $6.55 per hour

Qualifications:
- At least 2-3 years experience as a Commercial Building Maintenance. Preferably in Carpentry and Masonry
- Full time with flexible working hours

Please mail your resume to PMB 654 Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950 or contact our Office at Tel. (670) 233-1545 Between 2:30PM – 9:00PM

JAPAN ENTERPRISES CORP. DBA CLUB MICRONESIA
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) WAITRESS
2-3 years experience as waitress or bartender in a Night Bar or an Entertainment Business
Salary: $6.55 per hour
Other Qualifications:
- At least 21-25 years old with pleasing personality
- Full time with flexible working hours
- Preferably can speak Japanese language fluently

(2) BUILDING MAINTENANCE;
(5) MASON/CARPENTER
Salary: $6.55 per hour
Qualifications:
- At least 2-3 years experience as a Commercial Building Maintenance. Preferably in Carpentry and Masonry
- Full time with flexible working hours

Please mail your resume to P.O. Box 502859, Saipan, MP 96950 or Contact our Office at Tel. (670) 233-1545

ONE CALL INCORPORATED

P.O. Box 5045
CHRB Saipan
Tel: 287-9681
Ground Floor D' Torres Building Garapan

10 Commercial Cleaners
4 Yard Workers

Minimum wage
U.S. Citizens and Green Card holders are welcome to apply.

JAGUAR LIMITED DBA CLUB MERMAID
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(3) WAITRESS; (1) BARTENDER
2-3 years experience as waitress or bartender in a Night Bar or an Entertainment Business
Salary: $6.55 per hour
Other Qualifications:
- At least 21-25 years old with pleasing personality
- Full time with flexible working hours
- Preferably can speak Japanese language fluently

(6) BUILDING MAINTENANCE;
(5) MASON/CARPENTER
Salary: $6.55 per hour
Qualifications:
- At least 2-3 years experience as a Commercial Building Maintenance. Preferably in Carpentry and Masonry
- Full time with flexible working hours

Please mail your resume to PMB 697 Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950 or contact our Office at Tel. (670) 233-1545 Between 2:30PM – 9:00PM

STRATEGIC GAMING SOLUTIONS, INC.

is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Finance Manager (1)
Bachelor degree in Accounting, Business Administration or related area. Three (3) or four (4) years experience in accounting, management of financial systems and budgets, financial reporting, financial data analysis and forecasting, auditing, taxation and providing financial advice preferably in the gaming industry. Must be extremely number-oriented and computer literate with superior spreadsheet skills, proficiency in SAP Accounting Software and Excel highly preferred.

Sous Chef (1)
Must have a high school diploma or equivalent plus two (2) to three (3) years of work experience as a cook in a restaurant or hotel. Preferably with experience in Western, Japanese and Chinese cuisine. Must be willing to work shifts, holidays and weekends.

Head Cook (1)
Must have a high school diploma or equivalent plus two (2) years of work experience as a cook in a restaurant or hotel. Preferably with experience in Western, Japanese and Chinese cuisine. Must be willing to work shifts, holidays and weekends.

Food & Beverage Supervisor (1)
Must have a high school diploma or equivalent plus three (3) to five (5) years of work experience as a Food and Beverage Team Leader in a Hotel or Restaurant. Must have knowledge of Micros (POS) and is able to formulate systems and procedures for the operations of the Bar, Restaurant and Kitchen.

Interested applicants may pick up an application at our HR Office located within Kanoa Resort, Susupe Beach Road from Monday to Friday between the hour of 10:30am to 5:30pm. Applications must be supported with resume and certificates. Last day of submission of application is March 23, 2017.

Strategic Gaming Solutions, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

POI Aviation

Chef de Partie (1)
Qualifications: Two (2) years previous work experience as a Chef de Partie is required and preferably from a high volume restaurant or hotel. Able to lead and be a good team player. Strong communication skills as to lead and instruct effectively. Must practice high level of hygiene standards. Is willing to work a flexible schedule including early morning hours, nights, weekends and holidays.

Interested applicants may send their applications to recruitment@poiaviation.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than March 17, 2017. Applications for employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the POI Aviation Building on International Terminal LP, Saipan International Airport. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

POI Aviation is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Gemkell Saipan Corp.

is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

Boutique Supervisor (3)
High School Diploma or a GED with one (1) to two (2) years of related or applicable work and management experience in luxury retail environment. Must be able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Must be familiar with the POS System.

Interested applicants may send their applications or resumes via email to gemkell_recruitment@tanholdings.com . To be considered, resumes/application documents must be submitted not later than 5:00PM on March 18, 2017. Background checks will be required prior to employment.

POI Aviation Invites qualified US workers to apply for the following positions:

Executive Housekeeper (1)
Qualification: At least 5 years of progressive experience in a hotel or a related field; or a 2-year college degree and 3 or more years of related experience; or a 4-year college degree and at least 1 year of related experience. Supervisory experience required. Must be proficient in computer software applications, strong customer service and time management skills are essential. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, nights, weekends and holidays.

Interested applicants may send their applications to recruitment@poiaviation.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than March 23, 2017. Applications for employment are available at the Human Resources Department. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

POI Aviation is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd.

is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Accountant (1)
Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance and Accounting with at least 5 years work-related experience in financial management, payroll and general accounting procedures with emphasis on receivable, payable, and payroll management. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system, GENIISYS and MS Word and Excel software. Payroll accountant must possess experience in electronic processing of timesheets, allotments, and standard and government deductions. Must be able to work under time pressure and flexible hours.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Tuesday, March 21, 2017.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sam Corporation
Preferred applicants are local and/or valid US working status.

Sales Associates: Must have 1-year experience in sales and marketing of wine, liquor, and spirits. Must have a clean police record and valid driver's license. Must be able to communicate in English, must be able to read and write. Must be computer literate with background in Microsoft and Outlook. Must be able to lift heavy boxes. Pay: Minimum wage + sales incentive

Sales Manager: Must have 3-5 years experience in sales and marketing of wine, liquor, and spirits. Must have a clean police record and valid driver's license. Must be able to communicate in English, must be able to read and write. Must be computer literate with background in Microsoft and Outlook. Must be able to lift heavy boxes. Pay: Wage is determined by experience + sales incentive

Account Manager: Must have 2-4 years experience in accounting and marketing of wine, liquor, and spirits. Must have a clean police record and valid driver's license. Must be able to communicate in English, must be able to read and write. Must be computer literate with background in Microsoft and Outlook. Must be able to lift heavy boxes. Pay: Wage is determined by experience + sales incentive

Master Rum Distiller: Must have experience in distilling rum from molasses or brown sugar. Must have experience with fermentation and distilling a single and double column still. Must be computer literate with background in Microsoft and Outlook. Must be able to lift heavy boxes. . Must be able to communicate in English, must be able to read and write. Pay: Wage is determined by experience + production incentive

Send your resume to: ric@samcorpimports.com for interview
Deadline for submission: March 30, 2017

Workforce Solution, Inc. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

General Manager (1)
College graduate in Business Management plus ten (10) years casino management experience and five (5) years as a Casino Manager. Knowledge in financial management, forecasting and budgeting, strategic planning, marketing brand reinforcement, networking and stakeholder communication skills.

Cook (1)
Must have a high school diploma or equivalent plus two (2) years of work experience as a cook in a restaurant or hotel. Preferably with experience in Western, Japanese and Chinese cuisine. Must be willing to work shifts, holidays and weekends.

Administrative Accounting Clerk (1)
Bachelor degree in Accounting plus two (2) to three (3) years accounting experience. Must be familiar with SAP and Excel.

Food and Beverage Manager (1)
Degree in Hotel and Restaurant Management, business administration or equivalent plus three (3) to four (4) years experience in restaurant, bar business and food handling. Knowledge and experience in strategic planning, workforce planning, performance management and alignment, highly motivated, organized, outgoing with excellent communication and leadership skills.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than **5:00pm, Friday, March 23, 2017.**

Workforce Solutions, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

SAIPAN HEALTH CLINIC

Registered Nurse: (01)
- Must pass NCLEX with current CNMI RN License
- Must hold a degree of Bachelor of Science in nursing
- At least three to six years experience
- English language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

Front Office Manager: (01)
- At least over six years experience in medical billing, electronic health records and practice partner record
- Must be familiar with medical terminology, ICD 9, coding of medical procedures and diagnosis
- College graduate
- English language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Must be certified pharmacy technician
- Must be proficient in computer skills, spreadsheet and general accounting skills.

Ultrasound/X-Ray Technician: (02)
- At least six years experience or related field
- Must hold a Bachelor of Science in Radiology Technology
- Must be over six years experience in electronic health and practice partner records
- Experience/knowledge with practice partner software in electronic health records usage
- Licensed by Medical Professional Licensing Board, CNMI

General Yard Maintenance: (01)
- At least two years preferred skills and experience
- Experience in assisting in building construction/renovation
- Maintaining the interior and exterior of the clinic in a neat and orderly condition
- Maintaining of plants in transplanting and fertilizing
- Assist in cleaning of clinic air conditionings
- Be flexible in assisting in other related maintenance duties
- Be flexible with time schedule

Healthcare Clinic System Manager: (01)
- Minimum of three to five years of work related skills, knowledge or experience
- Bachelor's degree or equivalent
- Maintains specialized computer programs relating to health care operations (medical billing, patient records, scheduler)
- Maintain all of company computer systems to include computer hardware, software, computer network and advance server skills
- Oversees medical billing department utilizing specialized computer software
- Oversees administrative areas and designs, develops and maintains a paperless computer system
- Building maintenance repair, electronic records and prescription with meaningful use in compliance with Medicare and Medicaid standards
- Performs such other duties as may be assigned

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up application at Saipan Health Clinic in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application or resume will be on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. For more information, please call 234-2901 ext. 128.

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper. Call 235-NEWS

CLICK IT OR TICKET DAY & NIGHT

Villanova gets top seed in NCAA Tournament; Syracuse out

By EDDIE PELLS
AP NATIONAL WRITER

For pure drama, best wait 'til the shots start flying.

For sheer excitement, Selection Sunday belonged to Northwestern.

Though it was no surprise when that school's name popped into the NCAA Tournament bracket, it was a reminder that, yes, this is March Madness—that time of year where anything can happen. The Wildcats, longtime losers in the Big Ten, were officially invited to the tournament for the first time in school history, and the group-hugging, selfie-taking reaction from the players (and others) when their name came up showed how much the accomplishment really meant.

"When I came here four years ago, it was a belief in a day like today," said coach Chris Collins, whose team won 23 games on its way to the tournament.

Another set of Wildcats—the ones from Villanova—were given the tournament's top overall seed. The defending champions were joined by Kansas, North Carolina and Gonzaga on the "1" line—a quartet that produced very little in the way of head scratching.

With the brackets set, the action begins Tuesday and Wednesday with opening-round games that will include matchups between the last at-large teams invited into the draw: No. 11 seeds Providence vs. Southern California and Kansas State vs. Wake Forest.

The tournament gets into full swing Thursday, with the Final Four set for April 1 and 3 in Phoenix. Villanova, which won the title last year on a buzzer-beating jump shot by Kris Jenkins, will open its quest for back-to-back titles against the winner of an opening-round game between New Orleans and Mount Saint Mary's.

"I want the guys to enjoy it tonight, and then tomorrow, we're just one of 68 teams," Villanova coach Jay Wright said.

Though Kansas was the overall second seed, it opened as the favorite in Las Vegas, at 8-1. North Carolina and Villanova were next at 9-1, followed by Gonzaga, Duke and Kentucky at 10-1.

Overall, the bracket produced more small quibbles than true blockbusters.

If there was any debate about the top, it was about whether Duke (27-8) really belonged as a No. 1 instead of a No. 2, which is where it ended up. The Blue Devils won four games in four nights at the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament, and have beaten the rival Tar Heels (27-7) twice. But Mark Hollis, the chair of the selection committee, beat back that debate quickly, telling the commentators on CBS (who dragged out the bracket reveal for more than a half hour) that Duke entered the week as a No. 4 seed.

And though the Blue Devils kept winning over the weekend, "they got stopped on the way by teams that won both their regular-season and conference tournaments (Kentucky and Arizona) and they were never compared to teams on the No. 1 line," Hollis said.

Teams that didn't make it off the bubble included Syracuse and Illinois State.

Syracuse was vulnerable because of its 84th ranking in the RPI and 2-11 record on the road. Still, the Orange ouster was notable because of the outcry when Jim Boeheim's team made the field with a similarly mediocre resume last year - then made it all the way to the Final Four.

"Last year, we had the same number of losses (14) and the committee chose to go with teams that had wins," said Boeheim, whose team's losses this season included blowouts against lower-division St. Johns and Boston College. "This year, it was virtually the same committee but they were emphasizing the losses you had."

Illinois State's chances took a blow when it lost to Wichita State by 20 in the final of the Missouri Valley Conference. Also, it turns out Wichita State wasn't as highly regarded as many suspected—the 20th-ranked team in the latest Associated Press poll only got a No. 10 seed.

Kentucky coach John Calipari, whose Wildcats could face Wichita State in the second round, re-emphasized a point he made last year.

"When you mis-seed somebody, it hurts the seeds above them," he said. "You put a team at '8' that shouldn't be there, and the '1' looks at it like, 'Why are we playing this team?'"

With never-ending realignment turning more mid-major programs into true majors, the number of so-called little guys making the tournament continues to decline—even if you do count Gonzaga of the West Coast Conference as one of those.

Led by the ACC with nine teams, then the Big East and Big Ten with seven each, the six biggest conferences took 32 of the 36 at-large spots this year.

AP
This image shows the 2017 NCAA Division I men's college basketball tournament bracket. Villanova took the overall top seed on Selection Sunday, with Kansas, North Carolina and Gonzaga joining the defending national champions on the No. 1 line for the NCAA Tournament.

NCAA Tournament filled with great early match-ups

By JOHN MARSHALL
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

Villanova is the No. 1 overall seed in the NCAA Tournament to start its bid to become the first repeat national champion since Florida in 2006-07.

To get there, the Wildcats may have to face the Gators. If both teams win their first two games, they'll play in the Sweet 16. That's just one of the great potential match-ups and interesting story lines revealed when the NCAA Tournament bracket was released Sunday.

GREAT OPENERS

Several opening games stick out, some for a contrast in styles, the other for the similarities.

In the East Region, No. 5 seed Virginia pits its shutdown defense against high-scoring UNC-Wilmington. The Cavaliers were No. 1 in adjusted defensive efficiency, according to KenPom.com, and Seahawks were 10th nationally in scoring offense at 85.2 points per game.

Two more style clashes could come in the Midwest second round between power Big Ten teams and up-tempo Big 12 teams: Purdue against Iowa State and Michigan State against Kansas.

Also the Midwest Region, two of the nation's top offensive teams will meet when Michigan faces Oklahoma State Friday in Indianapolis. Oklahoma State was the top team in offensive efficiency and Michigan was fifth.

And watch out for Oregon and Iona, in the Midwest Region as well. The cameras might have a hard time keeping up with these high-octane teams.

SPEEDY SOUTH

Speaking of offense, the South Region will have plenty of it.

North Carolina, Kentucky and UCLA are all in the South and all love to get up and down the floor.

Kentucky and UCLA, the No. 2 and 3 seeds, have the potential to meet in the Sweet 16. The Tar Heels, the No. 1 seed, would meet the Wildcats in the regional final if both get through the bracket. They played arguably the best game of the season in December, a fast-paced thriller in Las Vegas won 103-100 by Kentucky behind Malik Monk's 47-point night. A rematch with a spot in the Final Four on the line could be epic.

INDIVIDUAL MATCHUPS

Two games will have must-watch individual matchups.

In the West, it will be a battle of big men when Gonzaga's Przemek Karnowski faces South Dakota State's Mike Daum.

Karnowski is one of the biggest and craftiest big men in the country, 7-foot-1, 300-pound force on the inside. He'll have his hands full in Salt Lake City on Thursday against Daum, the highest-scoring player to make the tournament. The 6-9 sophomore was the Summit League player of the year after averaging 25.3 points and 8.2 rebounds.

Also worth watching will be the battle between Creighton's Justin Patton faces Rhode Island's Hassan Martin, Friday in the Midwest Region.

Patton is a versatile 6-11 freshman who can shoot 3-pointers or play inside. Martin, a senior, was Rhode Island's second-leading scorer at 14.1 points and shot 59 percent from the floor.

IN-STATE BATTLES

The selection committee occasionally throws in intriguing match-ups and this year was no different with two games between teams from the same state.

The battle of the Bluegrass State will take place Friday in Indianapolis when Kentucky faces Northern Kentucky, a game that's not expected to be close.

The West Region game between Florida State and Florida Gulf Coast could be a trendy pick for an upset, in large part because of their Dunk City run in 2013. The game is also in Orlando, adding to the in-state flair.

LEFT OUT

As is the case every year, several teams were disappointed when the bracket was announced.

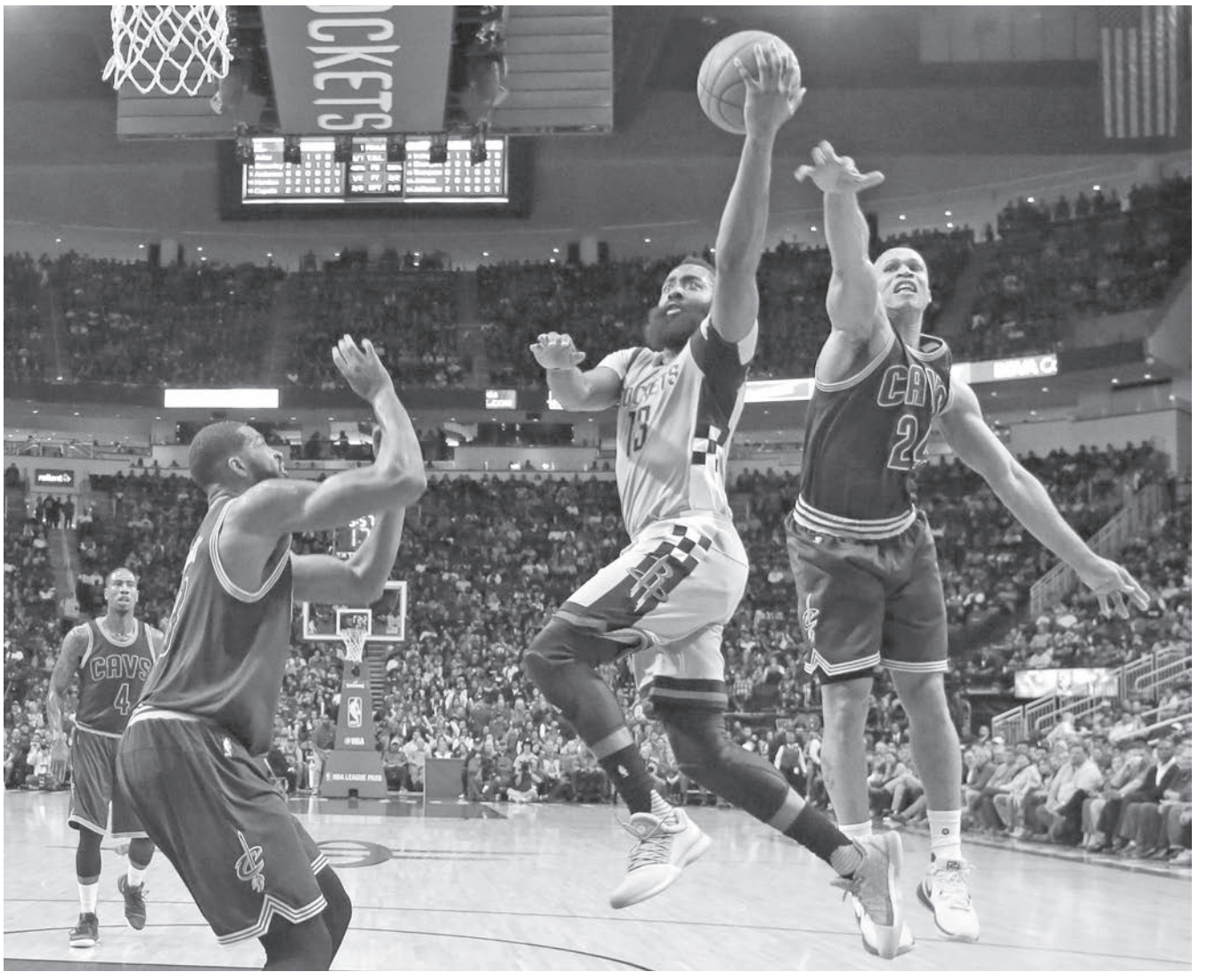
Illinois State won 27 games, finished 17-1 in the Missouri Valley Conference and lost to Wichita State in the tournament title game. The Redbirds were left out when the teams were called, leaving them devastated.

"My team is crushed," Illinois State coach Dan Muller said.

Syracuse also came up short. The Orange had too many bad losses early, a 2-11 record away from home and a high RPI of 84.

Others that had their hopes crushed: California, Georgia, Illinois, Monmouth, Texas-Arlington and Iowa.

Harden out-duels LeBron James as Rockets beat Cavs



AP

Houston Rockets' James Harden (13) goes up for a shot as Cleveland Cavaliers' Richard Jefferson (24) and Tristan Thompson, left, defend during the first quarter of an NBA basketball game Sunday, March 12, 2017, in Houston.

HOUSTON (AP)— James Harden and the Houston Rockets have shown at times this season that they could be title contenders. Lately, however, they've failed to rise to the occasion against the NBA's elite.

That changed on Sunday night when Harden had a triple-double of 38 points, 11 and 10 rebounds to outduel fellow MVP candidate LeBron James and lead the Rockets to a 117-112 win over the Cleveland Cavaliers.

"We beat Golden State. We beat San Antonio, but that was earlier," Rockets coach Mike D'Antoni said. "We haven't had one (recently), so this was good. This will give us a little boost."

The Rockets were up by six when Nene made a layup before intercepting a bad pass by James. Patrick Beverley made a 3-pointer on the other end to push the lead to 116-107 with less than two minutes left.

Kyrie Irving hit a 3 with less than a minute to go and added two free throws after that to get the Cavaliers within four. But then Harden sank a free throw to end Cleveland's run and secure the victory.

It was the 16th triple-double this season for Harden and his 31st game with at least 30 points.

"It's a big win for us, especially because we're down the stretch and it's time to begin preparing ourselves for postseason," Harden said. "Big win against the defending champs."

James had 30 points and Irving scored 28 for the Cavaliers, who lost for the fourth time in five games.

Cleveland coach Tyronn Lue thinks James and Irving struggled after the team also played on Saturday night.

"We played hard and fought down the stretch and got tired," Lue said. "I thought LeBron got tired and Kyrie got tired. What we took advantage of in the first half, we weren't able to get those things in the second half because our guys got tired."

James lamented the fact that Houston got 20 offensive rebounds to just four by the Cavaliers.

"They did a good job of crashing the glass," he said. "Obviously, if we got some of those we would have given ourselves a better chance to get the win, but we didn't."

Deron Williams gave the Cavaliers a one-point lead on a 3 with about seven minutes left before Houston scored the next seven points, highlighted by Clint Capela's two-handed dunk on an assist from Harden to make it 107-101.

James ended a scoring drought of almost two minutes when he drained a 3-pointer just before the shot clock expired to get Cleveland within three.

Lou Williams gave Houston a six-point lead by opening the fourth quarter with a layup. Cleveland then used a 10-2 run, with 3s from James and Channing Frye, to go on top 96-94.

Cleveland led by 14 with about 10 minutes left in the third quarter after a 3-pointer by James. The Rockets then used an 18-7 run to get to 81-78 with less than four minutes left in the period. Houston had two 3-pointers in that span, one from Harden and one from Ryan Anderson.

Harden and James both added a basket after that before Houston missed six straight shots over the next two possessions.

Lou Williams finally got the Rockets going again when he made a 3-pointer that tied it at 83 with about two minutes left in the quarter.

The Cavaliers regained the lead with a 3 by Derrick Williams, but Houston scored the last seven points of the quarter to take a 90-86 lead into the fourth. Harden capped that run by grabbing a steal from Irving and finishing on the other end with a layup.

The Cavaliers led 67-58 at halftime.

Celtics 100, Bulls 80

In Boston, Isaiah Thomas scored 22 points and later joined fans doing the wave as it circled TD Garden, and Boston handed Chicago its fifth straight loss.

The Celtics rushed to a 13-0 lead, shutting out Chicago until Dwyane Wade's jumper nearly six minutes into the game.

Thomas, the team's leading scorer at 29.2 points per game, played only 24 minutes and sat the entire final quarter. He had some fun with the fans in the closing minutes of the blowout, taking part with teammate Jae Crowder in the crowd's cheer.

Avery Bradley had 17 points. Robin Lopez and Denzel Valentine led the Bulls with 13 points apiece.

Nets 120, Knicks 112

In New York, Jeremy Lin ended an 0-for-9 start with a 3-pointer that halted a Knicks comeback, and Brooklyn beat New York for its first home victory of 2017.

The Nets ended a 16-game losing streak at Barclays Center. They hadn't won here since Dec. 26, when Lin strained his hamstring in a victory over Charlotte.

Brook Lopez had 25 points for the Nets. Carmelo Anthony had 27 for the Knicks.

Trail Blazers 110, Suns 101

In Phoenix, Damian Lillard scored 28 of his 39 points in the first half and Portland recovered to beat Phoenix after blowing an 18-point second-half lead.

Lillard scored just four points in the fourth quarter, but fellow guard C.J. McCollum added 26. Portland pulled within 1 1/2 games of Denver for the eighth and final Western Conference playoff spot.

Devin Booker led the Suns with 28 points, and Eric Bledsoe added 19.

76ers 118, Lakers 116

In Los Angeles, rookie Dario Saric scored a career-high 29 points, and Jahlil Okafor added 23 to help Philadelphia beat Los Angeles.

The Lakers, who got a career-best 30 points from Jordan Clarkson, rallied from a 12-point deficit in the second half to take a lead late in the fourth quarter. But T.J. McConnell's 12-foot fall away jumper with 50 seconds left gave the 76ers the lead for good.

Pacers 102, Heat 98

In Indianapolis, Paul George had 28 points and 10 rebounds in Indiana's victory over Miami.

Myles Turner added 15 points for Indiana, and Jeff Teague had 12 points, five rebounds and four assists. Hassan Whiteside led the Heat with 26 points and 21 rebounds.

Source: Adrian Peterson takes free agent visit to Seattle

AP

In this Sept. 18, 2016, file photo, Minnesota Vikings running back Adrian Peterson carries the ball during the team's NFL football game against the Green Bay Packers in Minneapolis.

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Adrian Peterson visited the Seattle Seahawks, while his original team in Minnesota hosted fellow free agent running back Eddie Lacy.

There's still a path for Peterson to return to the Vikings, but the signs of his potential departure haven't stopped popping up.

Peterson was at Seahawks headquarters on Sunday, according to a person with knowledge of the situation who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the details weren't being made public. This was Peterson's first in-person meeting with a team since the Vikings declined their option on his contract for 2017 and made him a free agent for the first time.

The Vikings have stated their openness to re-signing their all-time leading rusher for the right price, but they entered the offseason with bigger priorities and kicked it off by adding two new starters on a beleaguered offensive line in free agent tackles Riley Reiff and Mike Remmers.

That said, they'll probably need to sign a veteran running back at some point with Jerick McKinnon currently the only one on the roster of significance. So their interest in Lacy was telling. The Seahawks have their eyes on Lacy, too, after the 26-year-old's 2016 season with the Green Bay Packers was shortened by an ankle injury.

SportsTrust Advisors, the agency representing Lacy, announced Thursday on Twitter that he would visit the Seahawks, Vikings and Packers in that order over the following four days. Lacy rushed for 1,100 yards in 2013 and 2014, his first two seasons in the league, before falling off.

With Thomas Rawls and C.J. Prosise in place, the Seahawks have youth and potential at running back, but with Rawls missing 12 of 36 games over his first two years to ankle and leg injuries their depth isn't necessarily sound.

With Jamaal Charles and Latavius Murray also on the list with Peterson and Lacy, plenty of high-profile ballcarriers remain available following the initial frenzy on the market for more in-demand positions. Not only has the league evolved to the point where premiums are on quarterbacks, left tackles, pass rushers and cornerbacks, but the 2017 draft class for running backs is one of the strongest in years. So there's no obvious rush for teams like the Seahawks and Vikings to snatch one up this week.

There's probably no hurry for Peterson to pick a team, either. He has shared on Twitter multiple videos of his workouts in recent days, perhaps trying to remind the football world that he's still in exemplary shape with his 32nd birthday looming later this month.

As 40 approaches, Vogelsong seeks spot on Twins staff

BRADENTON, Fla. (AP)—Ryan Vogelsong isn't ready to be over the hill.

He's still having fun on top of it.

Vogelsong is in spring training with the Minnesota Twins on a minor league contract, about four months before his 40th birthday but plenty confident he can win a spot on the staff for the season.

"I still think I can get big league guys out consistently and help a team win, so that's why I'm here," Vogelsong said.

The right-hander started for the Twins on Sunday against the Pittsburgh Pirates at LECOM Park in Bradenton on Sunday, working 2 1/3 innings with three earned runs allowed on four hits. Vogelsong, who struck out one and hit one batter in a 4-3 victory by the Twins, said his rhythm on the mound felt as good as it has all during camp.

"I'm really happy with it," he said. "Everything was doing what I wanted it to."

Phil Hughes, Kyle Gibson and Hector Santiago are likely to fill the rotation behind surebet Ervin Santana, despite lackluster 2016 performances. Trevor May was recently diagnosed with a torn ulnar collateral ligament in his right elbow, removing one competitor from the scramble for the fifth spot, but it's still crowded with Jose Berrios, Tyler Duffey and Adalberto Mejia and fellow non-roster invitee Nick Tepesch.

Vogelsong endured too much adversity in his career to be deterred by that, though.

"He wants to be in that mix, and I don't blame him," Twins manager Paul Molitor said. "He's done fine so far. We know he's a guy that's not a young kid, so he know what he needs to do to prepare and we've seen progress every outing so far."

AP

In this Feb. 16, 2017, file photo, Minnesota Twins pitcher Ryan Vogelsong winds up to throw in the bullpen during a baseball spring training workout in Fort Myers, Fla.

There are no guarantees for Vogelsong, who has an opt-out clause in his contract that he can exercise at the end of spring training. Nearly having the game taken away from him last year made him realize his desire to pitch remains strong. With the Pirates last season, Vogelsong was struck in the face by a pitch from Colorado Rockies right-hander Jordan Lyles that shattered the orbital bone around his left eye. He still has titanium plates around his eye and cheek, reminding him how quickly a career can be taken away.

"I didn't want to end last year with a half season after being hit in the face," said Vogelsong, who went 3-7 last season with a 4.81 ERA and 65 strikeouts in 82 1-3 innings while splitting time between starting and relieving for the Pirates.

Over a 12-year career, which included two separate stints with the Pirates and San Francisco Giants, Vogelsong has a 61-75 record with a 4.48 ERA and 900 strikeouts in 1190 innings. Out of the majors for four full seasons, the first three pitching in Japan, Vogelsong was named an All-Star in 2011 upon his return after going 13-7 with a 2.71 ERA. He has a pair of World Series rings with the Giants from 2012 and 2014.

Vogelsong just wants one last shot at being a starter in the majors. The bullpen isn't part of his focus now.

"It's something I think about a lot," he said. "It's not something I'm just pushing under the rug and say, 'I can't do that.' It's something that I want to be able to do, so there is a constant thought process about what I can do better if I am in that situation."

He's not the same pitcher he was in 2011, requiring more command and craftiness to induce weak contact with the strikeout not as much of a weapon at his age. He's not ready to be counted out, though.

"One of the reasons we brought him in this spring," Molitor said, "is as a guy with character that still has something he feels he wants to prove."

TENORIO

From Page 28

Tenorio also swam in the 50m freestyle and placed No. 17 out of 132 swimmers after completing the sprint in 29 seconds.

In other results, Isaiah Alekseno, who won a gold medal in the 50m freestyle, marched into the finals, too, of the 100m individual medley. His 1:18.21 was ranked third among 75 swimmers and he eclipsed his prelim time in the finals after posting a fifth-best 1:18.06. MyS Hanahata's Kouyou Nakatani took the gold medal after recording 1:16.54.

Siblings Aika and Nanaka Watanabe and Aasish Dangol also competed in the 100m IM event in their respective age groups. The 13-year-old Aika clocked in at 1:20.38 to finish at No. 23 spot, while her younger sister Nanaka (11) posted 1:20.78 for the No. 42 place. Dangol logged 1:28.62 and was just one step away from making it to the finals in the U8 age group, as he ranked ninth in the preliminary races.

The Watanabe sisters had one more event each with Nanaka joining the 50m breaststroke and placing 36 out of 90 swimmers after timing in at 40.72 seconds. Aika did the 50mbackstroke and her 35 seconds put her at No. 20 out of 40 swimmers in the qualifiers.

Xans Xu also joined the qualifier in the 50m backstroke and landed at No. 18 out of 89 swimmers with his 38.08 seconds, while two more Tsunami Saipan swimmers competed in the 50m breaststroke, too. Sophia Gauran was one of them and her 39.66 gave her the No. 31 spot out of 45 swimmers, while Marian Batallones finished at No. 27 out of 104 participants after logging 50.41 seconds.

In the 50m butterfly event, Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero was ranked No. 14 (out of 78 swimmers) after checking in at 33.24 seconds, while he took the No. 23 spot (out of 144) in the 50m freestyle (31.50 seconds).

Meanwhile, Tsunami Saipan would like to thank the following for supporting the team's participation in the March 4 and 5 tournament: Mariana Resort & Spa, Tasi Tours, YANO Enterprizes, Inc., Dolphin Club Saipan, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Java Joe, Bostonian Bakery, IT&E, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Coca-Cola Saipan; Senate President Arnold Palacios and Sen. Justo Quitugua and Reps. B.J. Attao, Edmund Villagomez, Joe Itibus, Greg Sablan, and Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero.

SAIPAN

From Page 28

I need to be home by 10am," Sitchon said.

Despite the punishing heat last Saturday, Sitchon, Mister, and Sendin said quitting the race did not cross their minds.

"I guessed I am used to the weather conditions. It was very hot, especially in the second lap of the run leg, but I enjoyed every bit of the race. The swim and bike legs were great, while the hardest was the run part," said Mister, who did two similar 70.3 races before, doing his first in Cairns, Australia and the second during the Tagaman Triathlon.

Sending was a first-timer in the 70.3 race, but showed no rookie jitters and came on strong in the bike leg after a slow start.

"I had a bit of difficulty in the swim leg because I am not really a good swimmer and just started to be one a couple of years ago here on Saipan. However, I just kept pushing myself and enjoyed the race. I never thought of quitting because I prepared hard for this race and I knew I could finish it," said Sendin, whose stint in Ironman 70.3 Saipan was supported by TRAC's Ricky Castro.

AGAPE

From Page 28

goal and scored only two free throws in the first quarter.

"Our game plan was really to limit San Nicolas' production. I told Mac to guard him with or without the ball," Puno said.

Guintu played without relief, following San Nicolas right from the backcourt and fighting down screens from the latter's teammates. With Guintu's leech-like defense, San Nicolas had limited touches and when he was able to have possession on a couple of occasions, he was not squared off for the shots he took and missed as other Agape defenders were there to challenge the attempts. Guintu went on to put the finishing touches in Agape's victory after hitting a triple in the closing seconds of the match—his lone field goal in the finals.

While Guintu anchored Agape's defense, it was Yang Chenxuan who led the Torchbearers' offense after firing a game-high 18 points. He nailed all of Agape's 7 points in the third quarter, helping his team open a 21-15 advantage.

The Knights was stuck to 15 points for a while and had its first field goal in the second half at the 1:15 mark of the third canto off Juan Guerrero's bank shot. Vince Salvador then made a layup with under a minute left in the penultimate frame to move Mt. Carmel within 2, 19-21.

Salvador's field goal turned out to be the Knights' last, as they either turned the ball over or Agape read Mt. Carmel's passing lanes well and intercepted the ball. Big man Tychicus Xu used his long arms to deflect a couple of the Knights' passes and he also stood his ground against Mt. Carmel's frontliners in the rebound plays.

Tychicus contributed 4 points, matching his brother Silas' output, while Bao Heng completed Agape's box scores, adding 2.

Merrick Toves paced Mt. Carmel with his 6 points—all were made in the first half—as he saw limited minutes in the second and did not play in the entire fourth quarter. Aldraine Galang chipped in 5, which also came in the first half, while Mark Kapileo, San Nicolas, Guerrero, and Salvador had 2 apiece.

It was a sorry loss for the Knights, as they were undefeated going into the finals. Agape was also unbeaten in the 2015-2016 season before facing Mt. Carmel in the title duel.

Agape 31 – Chengxuan 18, S. Xu 4, T, Xu 4, Guintu 3, Heng 2.

MCS 19 – Toves 6, Galang 5, Kapileo 2, San Nicolas 2, Salvador 2, Guerrero 2.

Scoring by quarters: 7-7, 14-15, 21-19, 31-19.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	42	25	.627	—
Toronto	38	28	.576	3½
New York	26	41	.388	16
Philadelphia	24	42	.364	17½
Brooklyn	12	53	.185	29

Southeast Division

Washington	41	24	.631	—
Atlanta	37	29	.561	4½
Miami	32	35	.478	10
Charlotte	29	37	.439	12½
Orlando	24	43	.358	18

Central Division

Cleveland	43	22	.662	—
Indiana	34	32	.515	9½
Detroit	33	33	.500	10½
Milwaukee	32	33	.492	11
Chicago	31	35	.470	12½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

x-San Antonio	51	14	.785	—
Houston	46	21	.687	6
Memphis	36	30	.545	15½
Dallas	28	37	.431	23
New Orleans	26	40	.394	25½

Northwest Division

Utah	41	25	.621	—
Oklahoma City	37	29	.561	4
Denver	31	35	.470	10
Portland	29	36	.446	11½
Minnesota	27	38	.415	13½

Pacific Division

x-Golden State	52	14	.788	—
L.A. Clippers	40	26	.606	12
Sacramento	25	41	.379	27
Phoenix	22	45	.328	30½
L.A. Lakers	20	46	.303	32

x-clinched playoff spot

NBA LEADERS

Scoring

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Westbrook, OKC	66	677	603	2108	31.9
Thomas, BOS	63	571	494	1839	29.2
Harden, HOU	67	555	621	1947	29.1
Davis, NOR	62	633	440	1741	28.1
Cousins, SAC	55	505	423	1528	27.8
DeRozan, TOR	59	572	435	1604	27.2
Lillard, POR	60	520	381	1576	26.3
Leonard, SAN	58	506	393	1519	26.2
James, CLE	60	585	287	1566	26.1
Durant, GOL	59	528	326	1494	25.3
Irving, CLE	58	541	238	1460	25.2
Curry, GOL	64	538	268	1593	24.9
Towns, MIN	65	615	270	1575	24.2
McCollum, POR	65	573	222	1528	23.5
Butler, CHI	60	431	470	1402	23.4
Beal, WAS	61	505	226	1417	23.2
Antetokounmpo, MIL	64	534	376	1486	23.2
Walker, CHA	65	530	255	1506	23.2
Wall, WAS	63	527	329	1453	23.1
Wiggins, MIN	65	551	319	1498	23.0

FG Percentage

	FG	FGA	PCT
Jordan, LAC	323	459	.704
Gobert, UTA	300	463	.648
Capela, HOU	285	443	.643
Howard, ATL	308	481	.640
Jokic, DEN	369	629	.587
Gortat, WAS	326	562	.580
Adams, OKC	313	545	.574
Kanter, OKC	316	568	.556
Whiteside, MIA	429	776	.553
Valanciunas, TOR	316	575	.550

Rebounds

	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Whiteside, MIA	62	228	653	881	14.2
Drummond, DET	65	277	624	901	13.9
Jordan, LAC	66	237	660	897	13.6
Howard, ATL	60	248	526	774	12.9
Gobert, UTA	65	247	582	829	12.8
Towns, MIN	65	237	560	797	12.3
Davis, NOR	62	140	590	730	11.8
Gortat, WAS	65	200	525	725	11.2
Love, CLE	46	115	395	510	11.1
Cousins, SAC	55	115	469	584	10.6

Assists

	G	AST	AVG
Harden, HOU	67	752	11.2
Wall, WAS	63	682	10.8
Westbrook, OKC	66	669	10.1
James, CLE	60	531	8.8
Rubio, MIN	59	517	8.8
Teague, IND	66	521	7.9
Holiday, NOR	51	375	7.4
Green, GOL	62	443	7.1
Lowry, TOR	56	386	6.9
Rondo, CHI	56	357	6.4

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JEM/Mobil Basketball League All-Star Game

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Red Team's Ronald Rueda pulls up for an open jumper after getting a screen from Gil Gapor, right, during the second quarter of their match against the Blue Team in the JEM Company Ltd./Mobil Customer Appreciation Basketball League All-Star Game last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

The Blue Team's Kevin Rejano, center, looks for a teammate to pass the ball TO after getting the rebound.

The Blue Team's Michael Cabanas, left, picks up a loose ball.

The Blue Team's Alvin Almario, left, drives and draws a foul on the Red Team's Andy Mortos.

The Blue Team's Jun Fidelino, second left, beats the Red Team's Andy Mortos for the rebound.

The Red Team's Andy Mortos, left, collars the rebound against the Blue Team's Jun Fidelino.

The Red Team's Douglas Schmidt scoops in a layup.

The Blue Team's Melvin Gallardo, right, stretches for a layup, while the Red Team's Perry Inos looks on.

Villanova gets top seed in NCAA Tournament; Syracuse out

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Sports

Harden out-duels LeBron James as Rockets beat Cavs

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Agape dethrones Mt. Carmel

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

It's payback time for Agape Christian School.

Agape avenged its finals loss to Mt. Carmel School last season following a 31-19 victory in the boys middle school title game in the 2016-2017 Commonwealth Coalition of Private School Association Basketball League yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Torchbearers held the Knights scoreless in the fourth quarter and to 4 points in the entire second half to earn the championships that eluded Agape last year after Mt. Carmel overhauled an 18-point deficit and pulled off a 40-38 victory.

"It feels great to get this year's title and win our rematch against Mt. Carmel," said Agape coach Noel Puno. "The boys played great defense in the second half, especially Mac Guintu."

Guintu hounded MCS gunner James San Nicolas all throughout the game and the latter ended up without a field

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Agape Christian School's Tychicus Xu, left, and Mt. Carmel School's Vince Salvador battle for possession during the fourth quarter of their title game in the boys middle school division of the private school caging yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Saipan triathletes conquer Ironman 70.3

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Used to the brutal race conditions on island, Charlie Sendin, Tyce Mister, and Manny Sitchon made the grade in last Saturday's Ironman 70.3 Saipan.

Sendin was the best Saipan finisher in the 1.9-kilometer swim, 90K bike, and 21.1K run after crossing the finish line at Pau Pau Beach in 6:02:03. He had split times of 45:51. 3:03:22, and 2:07:07. Mister was not far behind after posting 6:05:15 and recording split times of 39:28, 3:02:37, and 2:19:30. Sitchon also made the eight-hour cut with a lot of time to spare after checking in at 7:07:53 and tallying split times of 53:51, 3:24:28, and 2:44:19.

The 60-year-old Sitchon went on to top the 60 to 64 age group competition in the inaugural Ironman Saipan and he also earned a qualifying slot to the 2017 Ironman 70.3 World Championship in Chattanooga, Tennessee in September. The world championship could be the sexagenarian's third.

"I did my first in 2013 during the Cobra Ironman in Cebu. I almost did not make the cut-off in my first race because I wasn't prepared that time unlike in the Saipan Ironman. I was able to lower my time by more than an hour and the feeling is satisfying," Sitchon said.

"During the whole part of the race I felt OK because I've been doing some brick training before the Ironman Saipan. The run portion was brutal but I knew I can survive the run. Maybe it is because of the training I've been doing for next week's Saipan Marathon. I am registered to do the 50K ultra marathon, but I might run the marathon instead because I have a wedding to attend and

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Tenorio rises up in Tokyo Junior Sprint

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan's Juhn Tenorio made a big leap in the Tokyo Junior Sprint 2017 after advancing into the finals of the 50m backstroke event of the competition held early this month at the Tatsumi International Swimming Arena.

The 12-year-old Tenorio placed fifth out of the 98 swimmers who raced in the qualifying heats after clocking in at 31.98 seconds. He did the same race last year and was ranked 30th.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Tsunami Saipan's Juhn Tenorio competes in the 50m backstroke of a local race early this year at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

"He really made a big improvement this year even though he did not medal in the finals," Tsunami Saipan coach Hiro Kimura said.

In the finals, where the Top 8 finishers battled for the podium finish, Tenorio came out at sixth place after submitting 32.12 seconds. Taiyo Kyouiku Swim Club's Kunihiro Wasio won the gold medal after checking in at 31.16 seconds.

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